

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 SEPTEMBER 1985

Palestinian Affairs

Two Palestinian gunmen captured an Israeli yacht in Larnaca marina 25 September, killing a woman on board and taking two men hostage, Nicosia radio announced, adding that the area has been cordoned off by police and security forces. The PLO office in Nicosia denied that the organization has any connection with the attack, the radio noted. In a related report, Athens radio said the gunmen are demanding to be provided with a plane so that they can leave Cyprus with their hostages.

Lebanon

The Syrian Army clashed with Islamic Unification Movement gunmen in Tripoli 24 September after the latter checked the advance of a Syrian unit into the southern part of the city, Voice of Lebanon radio reported, adding that the Unification Movement was violating agreements to collect weapons and cease fire. A Unification Movement military official cited by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon denied that a "serious" cease-fire agreement had been reached and stressed that his side will not hand over its weapons before all Syrian forces withdraw from the city. About 250,000 of Tripoli's 700,000 residents have now abandoned their homes because of the fighting, according to Beirut radio.

Beirut radio broadcast statements by the Amal Movement and the higher Islamic Shi'ite Council expressing support for the Islamic Grouping's call for a general strike in Beirut's western sector 27 September.

Tunisia-Libya

The Tunisian people will foil all of Libya's conspiracies and will defeat every aggression, Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed

Mzali said in remarks reported by Tunis radio. Meanwhile, a Tunisian source told KUNA that the Tunisian Army is on maximum alert to resist any possible Libyan military attack. In a related development, the Tunisian Foreign Ministry summoned the Libyan high commissioner to protest four Libyan aircraft violating Tunisian airspace 23 September, Tunis radio disclosed.

Libya-USSR

A Soviet-Libyan protocol on agricultural cooperation was signed in Tripoli, TASS reported.

Egypt-United States

While cautioning that the meeting between Presidents Husni Mubarak and Ronald Reagan in Washington will not produce immediate results, Cairo radio noted "encouraging signs" regarding the start of U.S. moves to promote Middle East peace efforts.

Iran

Iran is training special forces for use in operations to close the Strait of Hormuz, the clandestine Radio Najat-e Iran reported.

DRA-Pakistan

Pakistan summoned the Afghan charge d'affaires and rejected a DRA protest that Pakistani Armed Forces attacked the southern areas of Khowst 6-8 September, Karachi radio reported.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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Intra-Gulf Affairs

Omani, Saudi, Qatari Naval Forces Hold Exercise

GF241718 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Naval units of the Omani Sultan's Navy carried out a joint mobilization exercise this morning with a number of naval units of the Saudi Arabian Royal Naval Forces and Qatari Amiri Naval Forces. The exercise, which was carried out in Omani regional waters, consisted of naval mobilization operations, training in electronic warfare, aerial target practice, and artillery shelling of assumed hostile targets. Exercises in transmitting messages between the participating ships and refueling and servicing the ships during the operations also were conducted.

The forces participating in the exercise carried out their tasks successfully and effectively and in total cooperation and coordination during its various stages. The exercise is part of the joint routine training program to exchange expertise and raise the fighting capabilities of the GCC naval forces.

Qatar

Mauritanian Foreign Minister Arrives in Doha

GF240958 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Doha, 24 Sep (WAKH) — Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, arrived in Doha early today from Abu Dhabi on a visit to the state of Qatar as part of tour to a number of the region's countries. Upon arrival he was received by Khalid 'Abdallah al-'Atiyyah, Qatari public works minister.

Saudi Arabia

Defense Minister On Aircraft Deals With UK, U.S.

GF241926 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Gentlemen, we have just received the following: On the eve of the departure of His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, to New York to represent his majesty the king at the 40th session of the United Nations and to visit Britain in response to the official invitation extended by the British Government to his royal highness, an SPA correspondent asked his royal highness the following questions:

Your Highness, you will leave tomorrow for Britain on an official visit. A statement was issued by the Royal Court some days ago indicating that an agreement on the purchase of aircraft from Britain has been concluded. Would your highness explain the details of this agreement?

His royal highness answered: In fact, as pointed out in the statement of the Royal Court, we will, God willing, leave for Britain tomorrow in response to an official invitation by the

friendly British Government. It is a fact that the government of His Majesty King Fahd, may God preserve him, has decided to purchase 132 aircraft with equipment and facilities. This deal consists of 48 Tornado bombers and 24 Tornado interceptors, for a total of 72 Tornado aircraft, in addition to 30 Hawk aircraft for forward combat training and 30 PC aircraft for elementary training. These planes were selected after detailed technical studies covering all aspects of their operations with regard to their combat and technical capabilities and their conformity with the tactical and strategic needs of our Air Force for support and training purposes.

Of course, the decision to purchase equipment in this quantity and quality could only be taken after comprehensive study and evaluation. The decision was not taken for the purpose of merely accumulating military hardware, but it was dictated by the supreme interests of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the defense of our Islamic holy shrines, our entity, and heritage, and the consolidation of our defense capabilities. As is known to all, the Kingdom is not an aggressive country and does not want to launch aggression against anyone; however, in defense of our country, we will repel any aggression from any source.

The second question: Your highness, it is known that the Kingdom has requested to purchase F-15 aircraft from the United States. Does this deal satisfy the kingdom's need for U.S. aircraft?

The answer is as follows: This question is on the mark and should be clarified. The kingdom still wants F-15 aircraft and other equipment. Requests have been made to our friends in the United States and contacts are continuing with the U.S. Administration in this regard. We know that there are some forces in the U.S. arena which oppose providing us with arms. We believe that their opposition is based on incorrect calculations. However, we are confident that many friends in the United States and the U.S. Administration, led by His Excellency President Reagan, will understand our position and our defense needs. It is known that the Kingdom is keen to have the capability to defend itself against any aggression.

Riyadh Amir, Austrian Chancellor Comment on Talk

GF250654 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT
25 Sep 85

[Text] Following his meeting yesterday with Austrian Chancellor Dr Fred Sinowatz, Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, amir of Riyadh made a statement to the press. He said that during the meeting, they reviewed the international situation, particularly our region, and issues of concern for world peace. He said that their views were in total agreement on those issues.

Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz described relations between Austria and Saudi Arabia as excellent and on the best possible level. He said that Austria's relations with the Kingdom have been strong for some time.

In a similar statement, Austrian Chancellor Dr Fred Sinowatz expressed his happiness at the excellent relations between the Kingdom and Austria. He expressed his satisfaction with meet-

ing Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The Austrian chancellor emphasized that Austrian policy with regard to the Middle East question is constant. He said that his country maintains the principles that it has always followed. He said that Austria is seeking a just solution to the Middle East question, particularly with regard to Palestinian rights, which have not been honored.

FRG Finance Minister Arrives in Jeddah
GF241950 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic
 1800 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] FRG Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg arrived in Jeddah this evening on a visit to the kingdom that will last several days. He was received at the airport by Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and a number of officials at the ministry.

Meets Foreign Minister
GF251054 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic
 1000 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal met in Jeddah today with FRG Finance Minister Dr Gerhard Stoltenberg. During the meeting, they discussed relations between the two countries and a number of issues of mutual interest.

King Sends Thanks for Soviet Congratulations
GF251056 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic
 1000 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has sent a thank you message to the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet in reply to the cable that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet sent to his majesty on the occasion of the Kingdom's national day.

In his cable, his majesty the king expressed his gratitude for these congratulations. He expressed to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet his wishes for continued progress and prosperity. He prayed God that the wish of all our peoples and the peoples of the world to achieve security and peace will be fulfilled for the good of all humanity.

Talks Held With Brazil on Military Cooperation
GF241606 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1320 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Sep (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'abd al-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy minister of defense and aviation and deputy inspector general, this afternoon chaired the opening session of talks between Saudi and Brazilian workteams on military-industrial cooperation

The meeting was attended on the Saudi side by senior officials at the Defense and Aviation Ministry, the general director of military factories, and members of the Saudi work team. Attending on the Brazilian side were General Jose Albuquerque,

chairman of the Administrative Council of Brazilian War-Materiel Industries; members of the official delegation; and members of the Brazilian work team who arrived in the Kingdom last Sunday.

This session is being held in implementation of the military industrial protocol signed between the Governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Federative Republic of Brazil and for the purpose of beginning the cooperation program signed by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, on behalf of the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The session is also aimed at ensuring the continuation of military industrial cooperation between the Kingdom and Brazil.

PDRY

DFLP's Nayif Hawatimah Arrives in Aden
GF241556 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
 1230 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], arrived in Aden this morning for several days' visit to the PDRY at the invitation of the YSP Central Committee. During his visit he will hold talks on current developments in the Arab region, particularly the Palestinian situation.

In a press statement, Brother Hawatimah said that during the visit discussions will be held on a number of issues of mutual interest to the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions within the framework of bilateral relations between the DFLP and the YSP. He said that discussions will also be held on a number of sensitive basic issues which ensure the development of the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories. He said: The Palestinian people are struggling with strong determination against occupation and the establishment of settlements and against the Camp David policy, the Reagan plan, and the Jordan agreement for the sake of their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state. He affirmed the unity of the Arab national stance and the importance of rapid restoration of PLO unity based on the unanimous resolutions adopted at the 13th Algerian session and Aden-Algeria agreement. Regarding the Soviet-U.S. summit due to be held in November, Comrade Hawatimah said that the current efforts of U.S. imperialism are aimed at letting Reagan enter into negotiations holding in his hands the Middle East card, as U.S. imperialism calls it. He added: It is expected that U.S. imperialism will try to exploit the current situation in the Middle East to serve its own goals at the expense of the Palestinian and Arab people.

He was received at the airport by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee; a number of officials at the YSP Central Committee Secretariat; 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative to Aden; and 'Ali Firas, DFLP representative in Aden.

Mubarak Arrives in New York for UN Meeting
NC240452 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0104 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Excerpt] New York, 23 Sep (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and his accompanying delegation arrived in New York from Washington early this morning, Tuesday.

President Mubarak was met on arrival by Ahmad Tawfiq Khalil, Egypt's permanent UN representative, and by members of Egypt's permanent delegation to the United Nations. After his arrival, President Mubarak went to the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, where he will stay during his visit there.

Meets With Iraq's 'Aziz
NC241635 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has begun his meetings with senior world figures who are attending the 40th anniversary celebrations of the United Nations in New York. At 1645 President Mubarak received Tariq 'Aziz, Iraq's deputy prime minister and foreign minister. 'Aziz had earlier met with Dr 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

It has been learned that the current situation in the Middle East and matters relating to the Iraq-Iran war were reviewed at the meeting. The president was briefed on the latest developments on the Iraq-Iran front.

'Abd al-Majid on New York Meeting With Shamir
LD251057 Kuwait KUNA in English 0920 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Excerpt] United Nations, Sept 25 (KUNA) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Isamat 'abd al-Majid told KUNA he explained to the Israeli foreign minister Yitzhaq Shamir in a meeting they held in New York Tuesday night the importance Egypt attaches to the ongoing peace process but Shamir "was firm in his points of view."

Commenting on the skepticism felt in Arab circles regarding the results of President Mubarak's talks with President Reagan this week, 'Abd al-Majid said, "We are doing what we think it is our duty. It is better for those who are not doing anything to try to do something instead of talk."

Asked about the present Arab coordination to bring the issue of an international peace conference on the Middle East to the Security Council, the Egyptian foreign minister said, "We hope it (the Council's discussion of the issue) will take place and we support" the efforts being undertaken in this regard.

The Egyptian official said the focus of his talks with Shamir was the Tabah problem in preparation for the upcoming meeting in Cairo between the two sides.

Tabah Talks With Israel To Begin 26 Sep
NC241413 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, assistant foreign minister and leader of the Egyptian delegation to the Tabah talks, has said that these talks will begin on Thursday 26 September and continue until Friday. The Egyptian delegation, he added, will listen to the Israeli delegation's proposals on ways to solve the Tabah problem. Our radio correspondent has learned that Egypt's stand is based on solving the problem through international arbitration. The Israeli delegation, led by the director of the prime minister's office, is due in Cairo on Thursday.

Paper Urges U.S. To Break Mideast Deadlock
NC240920 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 24 Sep 85

[From the press review]

[Text] *AL-JUMHURIYAH* today writes that the Mubarak-Reagan meeting took place amid indications that there is a straight road to peace that can be trodden at will if no preconditions are set. The coming phase will be a true test of the U.S. drive for a Middle East peace that guarantees the rights of all the parties concerned, particularly the right of the Palestinian people to a homeland of their own. It is high time, the paper says, for concrete steps to be taken to break the Middle East deadlock.

A much-needed preliminary step, the paper adds, is a dialogue between the United States and a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation. The United States should follow this dialogue with more decisive measures that would demonstrate its support for peace, stability, justice, and the rights of the Middle East peoples, including the Palestinians. Such a decisive measure, the paper suggests, would be recognition of the legitimate leadership of the Palestinian people as represented by the PLO. The paper concludes that U.S. recognition of the PLO will bring us closer to the straight course of a just and lasting Middle East peace.

Commentary Views Mubarak-Reagan Meeting
NC241522 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Ahmad al-Qasir commentary: Washington's Positive Participation Helps the Success of Peace Efforts]

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has gone to New York at the invitation of the UN secretary general to attend the 40th anniversary celebrations marking the establishment of the United Nations. He will deliver Egypt's speech to the current General Assembly session. This visit will naturally provide a favorable opportunity for President Mubarak to hold a number of meetings with several world leaders at their request. We consider this to be a continuation of Egypt's active efforts at various international levels to give an impetus to the peace process and to achieve a just settlement to the Middle East problem.

Although observers have now begun to focus their attention on the upcoming General Assembly session in light of the many world leaders who are taking part in it, they still continue to discuss yesterday's meeting between Presidents Mubarak and Ronald Reagan. This meeting focused primarily on the Middle East peace process and on attempts to end the stagnation which has affected it for the past few months. Anyone who believes that any meeting between Presidents Mubarak and Reagan will produce immediate results or, in other words, will completely change Washington's stand toward the PLO is mistaken. A change of stand requires an exhaustive study of all aspects of the problem. It also requires constant consultations with the parties concerned. What we want to stress is that there should be no hasty judgment about the results of Mubarak-Reagan meetings.

However, this does not prevent us from speculating on the appearance of encouraging signs regarding the start of U.S. moves to promote peace efforts. This is indicated by the U.S. President's statements prior to President Mubarak's arrival. The U.S. President stressed his determination to support the efforts currently being exerted by President Mubarak and King Husayn to achieve a just peace in the Middle East. There is also the call, which President Mubarak underlined before and during his meeting with Reagan, to seize and to exploit this opportunity to achieve peace before it is too late.

In our opinion, the results of the Mubarak-Reagan talks will appear later. In light of the coordination between Egypt and Jordan, we consider King Husayn's expected meeting with Reagan to be a completion of President Mubarak's meeting. There is also the British move, which Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi has described as a good one, to arrange a meeting in London next month between the British foreign secretary and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that will include two PLO members. This might pave the way for a similar meeting in Washington in view of Britain's influence and backing for the European position supporting the Palestinian people's rights. Britain is also the main ally of the United States. Prior to any of this, however, there is the scheduled meeting between Reagan and Gorbachev in Geneva in November. The Middle East problem will be at the top of the agenda for this meeting, particularly when one realizes that the Soviet leadership has begun to reassess the Middle East situation in light of developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas.

In view of all this, we can say that Washington will review its calculations. We can also say that a positive development will take place in the U.S. stand, particularly as regards a meeting with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in order to start a direct dialogue. We expect this to emerge within the coming weeks.

PLO's 'Arafat, Others Meet With Leaders

Husayn Discusses Palestine Issue

JN242015 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad — Iraqi President Saddam Husayn met at the Presidential Palace in Baghdad this morning with brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and brother members of the Palestinian command representing the PLO Executive Committee, the Fatah Central Committee, and the PNC chairmanship at the end of the meetings held by the Palestinian command in Baghdad. The meetings lasted 2 days.

At the beginning of their meeting, brother leader Abu 'Ammar expressed to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn his profound gratitude and that of the Palestinian command for the hospitality and the brotherly reception extended to the Palestinian command in Baghdad.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar said the Palestinian command's meetings in Baghdad are a true expression of the deep militant relationship between the PLO and fraternal Iraq.

During this meeting, they discussed the latest developments in the Palestine issue on all levels, particularly the situation inside the occupied homeland, where our Palestinian people are continuing their confrontation of the Zionist occupation through a vigorous national uprising, using all methods of popular and armed struggle.

They also reviewed the overall unjust, repressive, and terrorist measures by the Zionist occupation authorities against our kinfolk in the occupied homeland, as well as ways to confront them and support the steadfastness of our people there.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn hailed our struggler people inside the occupied homeland whose youths, old people, children, and women are confronting the Zionist occupation and all its repressive measures.

He also expressed his pride in our people's brave struggle, stressing that Iraq — party, government, and people — will continue its firm position in extending all kinds of support to our Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, despite all circumstances.

During the meeting, they also discussed the explosive situation in the Lebanese arena, particularly the unjust aggression against the militant Muslim city of Tripoli. They also stressed the need to stand by this patient city and strengthen its steadfastness against treacherous aggression.

The discussions also touched on Arab efforts to clear the Arab atmosphere and unify the Arab position on the basis of confrontation of the Zionist danger and partitioning plans and protection of the PLO and the Palestinian people's just rights, the foremost being the right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Husayn Addresses PLO Leaders

JN242004 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1504 GMT 24 Sep 85

["Full recording" of President Saddam Husayn's address at 24 September meeting with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and members of the PLO Executive Committee, the Fatah Central Committee, and the PNC chairmanship in Baghdad — recorded]

[Excerpts] Let us hope to serve this nation so that it will always remain strong and attain the level that will enable it to safeguard its principles. We met with you in Baghdad some time ago and spoke about the Arab nation's difficult circumstances. No one denies that the Arab nation faces difficult circumstances. One of the most difficult circumstances is when society faces two enemies; one from within and the other from without.

The sound state that the Arab nation has experienced is that its sacrifices have been those of martyrs. Some have tried to interfere in the definition of the word martyr. We have martyrs in Lebanon, but one cannot find their description as martyrs accepted by all the sons of the nation and by all its countries. We have martyrs in Palestine. The description of martyr is no longer the same for everyone. We also have martyrs in Iraq. We have martyrs everywhere. The deteriorating Arab state of affairs has confused the issue and has undermined the Arabs' concept of liberation, struggle, and the development of a nation.

Every person and every Arab wants to reassure himself about two facts when he is pushed to pay a price for his principles. The first is that he will enjoy a prominent place in the hearts of his brothers and his people. The second is that he wants to be sure that his martyrdom will help achieve the goal for which he is dying. There is nothing in the world that justifies telling these martyrs to die and then telling them we do not know whether that will achieve our goals or not.

The Palestinian is now being killed in Lebanon. In the future, perhaps the Algerian will be killed in Algeria and by the same forces, without a hand being raised by the Jordanian citizen toward those who are killing the Algerian in Algeria or toward those who kill the Iraqi in Iraq or the Libyan in Libya.

Sometimes we must exercise political flexibility. But we must be careful not to adopt this as a general rule. If this flexibility is something that can make us take strides toward principles, then we can exercise it. But if it is only a state where we would be bargaining on principles, then we must not do it. If flexibility leads us to better conditions, then we accept it. But if it leads us backwards in terms of principles and if it makes us admit that the evildoers, with their vicious means, can obtain good results, then we would be entrenching bad moves in Arab relations.

This must be rejected. The evildoers must give in and bow their heads to principles. We believe that this day is not far, God willing, because this is the law that governs all the world and not only us. In practical terms, you applied it and obtained results, and we applied it and obtained results. I am sure that the entire world knows that the war will not make us flexible at the expense of principles, whether in the Arab arena or in the international

arena. You are witnesses to this. We maintained our independence on the international level and continued to tell the evildoers that Iraq cannot give in to their blackmail. We are ready to offer an additional 5,000 martyrs rather than compromise on principles and have the Iraqis suffer from it for hundreds of years to come.

I believe all of you know that it is permissible to bargain when this means a search for points of agreement and the demonstration of some flexibility in order to carry out joint action and serve the interests of all the parties concerned. Such bargaining is acceptable if it takes place without subjugation, blackmail, or exploitation. The opposite is rejected.

I realize that Iraq's status is different from that of the PLO. I realize this very well. I know that Iraq speaks while it sits on its land. I also know that our capabilities are not those you possess. We can never commit the mistake of asking you to adopt a stand or behavior that would be similar to the Iraqi stand or behavior toward difficulties. It suffices that we are in the same trench. Everyone acts in accordance with his capabilities. We cannot ask Egypt to do what the UAE, for example, can do.

All we can ask is that Arabs agree on a minimum level that will be at least above the state of deterioration: an agreement on this minimum level by all the Arabs, or some of them. We are not of those who believe that we must wait for a general Arab consensus to say that the Arabs are faring well. We are content to have an agreement among two, three, or four, and later among all, God willing.

I meet with you as strugglers to discuss our affairs. This meeting is not necessarily to encourage one another; that is, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] encourages me, I encourage Abu 'Ammar, and Brother Abu al-Lutf encourages the third party. What is needed is to cooperate so we will not feel that we are weak. I say that we are very strong. We do not derive our strength from our arms. Is not our strength based on whether we are on the right path? If the answer is no, then not one of us is strong and no one in the world is weaker than we are. If the answer is that we are on the right course, in terms of current standards, aspirations, and the employment of capabilities as they are and as they should be, then we must be convinced that we will attain our objectives, with God's blessings.

We are happy to meet with you because we see the Palestinian people in you and because you represent the future.

Unlike others, we believe your strength lies in the fact that you are a dispersed people, a people who have no land, no flag, and no army to parade in their capital. We believe that this is the source of your strength. History cannot proceed on the wrong course because of the stand of a handful of evildoers.

Hammadi Receives PNC Speaker

*JN241839 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1500 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Text] Baghdad — National Assembly Speaker Dr Sa'dun Hammadi received PNC Speaker 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih at

noon today. They discussed relations between the Iraqi National Assembly and the PNC and ways to promote them. The meeting was attended by PNC Deputy Speaker Salim al-Za'nun.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

*JN241712 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1553 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Communique No 1,968 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The Iraqi men, sons of the ancient Arab nation which has initiated new vistas of enlightenment for mankind and which has ascended the ladder toward a state of free thinking, honest work, and good deeds, enjoy the privilege of upholding God's word and building mankind's happiness. These men, under President Saddam Husayn's leadership and out of their concern for the past and their expectations for the future, are capable of destroying the idols of the new oppression and of demolishing all the barriers standing before the tide of freedom, progress, and justice, God willing.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In implementing the great Iraqi people's will and their political leadership's decision to destroy the pillars of Iranian economy and scientific institutions used by the Iranian rulers in their aggression against our people and nation, the brave hawks of the air launched a determined, devastating attack at 0810 [0410 GMT] today on the remaining utilities and equipment on Khark Island so that the destruction of this island, which was the source of livelihood for the ruling evil men in Iran, will be total and final and so that the fires ignited by the brave hawks of the air will continue to blaze, indicating the tyrannical clique's crushing defeat by Iraqi power and pride.

Having fulfilled their duty, the hawks of the air returned with their planes safely and in God's care, carrying more good tidings for their people.

Great Iraq has warned Iran through its great leader that it only has one of two choices: peace or destruction of the remaining means of aggression. This is our continuous, decisive reply to the foul language which is the only thing in which the Tehran rulers excel. Iraq's warning is substantiated by the men who are carrying it out in every place and at all times with their famous courage and excellent performance. It is also our legitimate right to strike everywhere. We will continue to exercise this right against every vital utility until the war ends and those misguided by their ambitions, hatred, and suspect links return to their senses. We seek help from God, for He is our noblest and best supporter.

2. A force of our forward units in the II Army Corps central sector carried out a daring combat operation against enemy positions opposite our positions. In a resolute attack, our force reached the enemy positions, using all types of weapons. Our force inflicted on the enemy the following losses and safely returned to its positions: 15 enemy soldiers killed, 3 ammunition

dumps set on fire, 3 machine-gun positions destroyed, and 1 vehicle set on fire. Elsewhere in the same sector, other units captured one enemy excavator and destroyed one vehicle and one observation post.

3. One of our courageous units attacked enemy positions opposite our units in the VII Army Corps sector. Dealing successful blows, our unit destroyed 11 infantry positions, killing all their occupants. Our unit also destroyed quantities of military hardware and other types of equipment.

4. With courage and capability, one of our brave combat patrols reached enemy positions opposite our units in the V Army Corps northern sector, capturing two enemy soldiers and their weapons, consisting of two rifles of the (?DC) type. The patrol safely returned to our units' positions.

5. Five enemy soldiers were killed and one observation post and three infantry positions were destroyed in the I Army Corps northern sector.

6. One vehicle carrying fuel and one observation post and two ammunition dumps were destroyed and several enemy positions in the East Basra III Army Corps sector and the East Maysan IV Army Corps sector were set on fire.

7. Seeking freedom and security and expressing the Iranian people's rejection of the policies of the Khomeyniite clique based on terrorism and oppression, new groups of Iranian military and civilians sought refuge with one of our forward units at the battlefield. Among those who escaped were an Iranian family and a lieutenant. They were all safely evacuated to the rear.

8. The forces of evil and aggression shelled Khormal and (Darbandkhan) with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 September 1985

Khark Raids Cause Drop in Iranian Oil Revenues
JN241652 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Vienna, 24 Sep (INA) — Knowledgeable oil sources asserted here today that the drop in Iran's oil exports, as a result of Iraqi air strikes on Khark, has embarrassed Iran in fulfilling oil commitments to other countries.

In a statement to an INA correspondent, the sources said that Iran's oil revenues will drop this year to \$9 billion, after being estimated at \$17.4 billion, as a result of the drop in oil exports.

The sources cited the crew of a Japanese oil tanker as saying that grave damage occurred to the eastern side of Khark after the Iraqi air attack on 19 September. The sources added that Southeast Asian countries cabled their tankers in the Arab Gulf area to move to Arab ports because of the stoppage of Iranian oil exports on the islands of Khark and Sari.

Ramadan Addresses Arab Economists Conference
JN212055 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1900 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Baghdad — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and deputy prime minister, opened the ninth conference of the Arab Economists Union this morning.

The conference, held under the slogan "Let joint Arab action be our attitude to confront the present and future challenges," began by observing 1 minute of silence in memory of the martyrs of Saddam's glorious Al-Qadisiyah.

Taha Yasin Ramadan delivered a speech in which he affirmed that the current Arab situation and the difficulties facing joint Arab action in all aspects require the utmost efforts to pinpoint the impediments and find adequate means to overcome them.

The deputy prime minister said that Iraq has built a strong economic base, which it established thanks to the new generation. He said that the war rekindled by the tyrant clique in Iran will not obstruct the march of regular development and that Iraq, which has been able to repulse the aggression over 5 years, has assumed a pioneering role as a result of its new experiment.

The RCC member affirmed that our economic strength will double and our development plans will expand while there is complete collapse and general weakness in Iran due to our destruction of Khark Island, which is considered the most important economic center.

Iran has started to descend toward a final collapse due to the aggressive Khomeyniite policy that is fed by Zionists and the traitors among Arab rulers such as Al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi.

UNRWA's Rydbeck Meets Leaders at End of Mission**Talks With Hasan**

*JN231149 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 23 Sep 85*

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received at the Royal Hashemite Court this morning UNRWA Commissioner General Olof Rydbeck at the end of his mission in Jordan. During the meeting, Rydbeck thanked his majesty, the regent, and the Jordanian Government for their support for the UNRWA. The situation of the refugees in Jordan and the region, and the services UNRWA is rendering to them were also discussed. The director of UNRWA affairs in Amman attended the meeting.

Talks With Deputy Prime Minister

*JN241215 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Text] Amman — Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali received UNRWA Commissioner General Olof Rydbeck at the end of his mission in Jordan at the Prime Ministry at noon today. Rydbeck expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the Jordanian Government's support for UNRWA in providing health and educational services for the refugees in Jordan. During the meeting, they discussed the situation of the refugees and the services UNRWA is providing them for the sake of promoting and improving the level of these services. The deputy prime minister affirmed the Jordanian Government's interest and concern regarding the continuation of UNRWA services for the refugees in implementing the aims and objectives for which UNRWA was established. Occupied Territory Affairs Minister Dr Tahir Kan'an and the director of UNRWA affairs in Jordan attended the meeting.

Foreign Minister Receives Gabonese Minister

*JN221255 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1100 GMT 22 Sep 85*

[Text] Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri received in his office today (El-Hadj Muhamad Biyotaa), minister of Islamic affairs in the Gabonese Republic and Gabonese president's envoy [name and title as heard].

Bulgarian Official Meets Parliamentary Leaders**Received by Senate President**

*JN221329 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 22 Sep 85*

[Text] Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi received in his office at Parliament at noon today Karaslakov, chairman of the Bulgarian-Jordanian Friendship Society [name and title as heard], currently visiting Jordan.

Talks revolved around existing political, economic and cultural relations between the two countries in general and parliamentary affairs in particular.

The Senate president hailed the continuous support of the Bulgarian National Assembly for the Arab cause, for Palestinian Arab people's legitimate rights in their homeland, and for just Arab causes. The Bulgarian ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Received by House Speaker

*JN231800 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 23 Sep 85*

[Text] Amman — 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the House of Representatives, this morning received Karaslakov, chairman of the Bulgarian-Jordanian Friendship Society and member of the Bulgarian National Assembly [name and title as heard].

During the meeting they reviewed bilateral political, economic, and cultural relations and ways to bolster them.

The speaker of the House of Representatives explained to the guest delegation Jordanian endeavors to bring about a just and lasting solution to the Palestine question under the auspices of an international conference, to be attended by the five permanent UN Security Council members and all parties to the conflict. He expressed his hope that the socialist states would support Jordanian efforts in this regard.

The guest delegation expressed its country's support for the attainment of a just and lasting solution to the Palestine question.

The Bulgarian ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Fighting Continues in Tripoli, Casualties Cited**Syrians, ADP Meet**

*NC241205 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1030 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Excerpt] A Syrian military delegation met with a delegation of the Arab Democratic Party [ADP] at the Arab deterrent forces command headquarters in Al-Haykaliyah [in Tripoli] at 1000 today. The ADP delegation was comprised of 'Ali 'Id, Najah Qaz'awn, and Mahmud Shihadah.

Following the meeting, 'Ali 'Id said that he was in favor of collecting and handing over the weapons if the plan that has been drawn up ensures and guarantees security in Tripoli. To a question about the ADP's relationship with the people of Tripoli, 'Ali 'Id said: We are part of the Tripoli people. The action we took was intended to ward off the domination of the city. We have learned from the Syrian delegation that an agreement has been reached to create five posts where the Lebanese Army and Syrian Army forces will set up positions. In our view, this is not enough for Tripoli's security. We reject partial solutions because we have other specific points which we will put before the Syrian delegation, such as the creation of posts at the nuns' school, in Al-Qubbah, in Al-Qal'ah, and elsewhere.

Asked about allowing political forces to establish offices in Tripoli, 'Ali 'Id said: We support freedom of political action for all the national parties.

Meanwhile, according to security information, the areas where the deterrent forces will be deployed were designated this morning. These are: Al-Mallulah, the quarantine, the port, the automatic telephone exchange in Al-Mina', the Tripoli government house, Harat al-Baqar, Al-Mankubin, and along the road extending from Tal'at al-Shamal up to the Al-Arz Street. Other posts in Ba'l Muhsin will be designated soon.

Meeting Reportedly Fails

*NC241312 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Excerpt] We have just received the following report from our newsdesk:

The expanded meeting held at Prime Minister Rashid Karami's house, ended a short time ago. It appears that the conferees have failed to reach an agreement to end the ordeal which has been going on for the past 10 days.

Members of the Islamic gathering left the meeting at 1530 without making any statements. Prime Minister Karami, likewise, declined to comment on the meeting. However, Tripoli Mufti Shaykh Tahah al-Sabunji said that everyone is working hard to end the ongoing crisis. He added: We implore God Almighty to guide our steps so that we can achieve this goal soon.

Clashes Continue

*NC241542 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1445 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Text] Clashes between members of the Islamic Unification Movement and the Arab Democratic Party are still continuing in the Al-Tabbanah, Ba'l Muhsin, and al-Qubbah areas of Tripoli. Reports from the north say that a military force has been deployed near the Lebanese Army roadblock in Al-Bahsas.

Meanwhile, the conferees who met in Prime Minister Rashid Karami's residence have failed to agree on a cease-fire for Tripoli. Northern sources expect that another meeting will be held at 2000 today.

According to AP, a military official of the Islamic Unification Movement described the Tripoli clashes as the most violent the city has ever experienced. The official, Abu 'Ali, denied that a serious cease-fire agreement has been reached. He said that the Islamic Unification Movement would not hand over its weapons before the withdrawal of all Syrian forces from the city.

Syrian Forces in Clash

*NC241634 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1619 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Text] Clashes between the Syrian Army and the Islamic Unification Movement have been raging in Tripoli since 1730 today. Heavy-caliber machineguns and rockets are being used in the fighting.

According to our exclusive information, the clashes broke out when a Syrian Army force advanced to Tripoli's southern entrance, specifically to the Al-Bahsas area. Islamic Unification Movement gunmen were able to check the force's advance. Our correspondent has reported that the Syrian forces then requested additional troops be sent from Al-Haykaliyah in order to besiege the Islamic Unification gunmen, who have violated both the agreement reached yesterday and the cease-fire agreement reached today along the Ba'l Muhsin, Al-Tabbanh, and Al-Qubbah combat lines.

10 Killed Overnight

*NC241113 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1045 GMT 24 Sep 8*

[Text] According to reports, 10 people were killed and 20 wounded in the violent clashes which broke out in Tripoli overnight. The clashes continued until 1000 today.

Residents Abandon Homes

*NC241704 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT
24 Sep 85*

[Excerpt] The recent fighting has resulted in the destruction of extensive areas of Tripoli and compelled about 250,000 of the total population of 700,000 to abandon their homes for the outskirts of the city. Those who have had to remain in their houses

have been subjected to artillery and rocket attacks. Hundreds have been either killed or wounded. Security sources report that the clashes which broke out 10 days ago have left 150 dead [figure as heard] and 600 wounded, most of them civilians. In the violence which erupted in the city last night 3 people were killed and 23 were injured.

Lebanese Forces Delegation Leaves for Damascus
NC241123 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
 1045 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] A Lebanese Forces delegation comprised of As'ad Shaftari and Michel Samahah left for Damascus today for talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The visit is part of continuing contacts with Syrian officials to discuss the Lebanese Forces' views on ending the state of war in Lebanon.

Lebanese Forces To Reopen Beirut Crossings
NC241758 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
 1615 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Dr Jean Ghanim, the Lebanese Forces representative on the Security Committee, announced this evening that as a gesture of goodwill the Lebanese Forces have decided to reopen the Al-Masalih-Qasqas and Al-Hadath-Al-Murayjah crossing points in both directions for supply and fuel convoys only, beginning tomorrow morning.

Due to the absence of the Progressive Socialist Party representative, the Central Committee meeting was replaced by a tripartite meeting with representatives from the Army Command and the Amal Movement. After this meeting, Ghanim said: In accordance with instructions of Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, we will reopen the crossing points of Qasqas-Al-Masalih and Al-Hadath-Al-Murayjah tomorrow morning for supply convoys. We will not allow civilians to use these crossing points out of concern for their safety and in order to frustrate the goals of those who feel harmed by any positive step taken by the Lebanese Forces.

Ghanim affirmed that the Lebanese Forces have never sought to impose a blockade on the western area. On the contrary, they have facilitated the shipment of wheat and flour by sea to all Lebanese areas. He also stated that he had notified representatives of the Lebanese Army and the Amal Movement today about the Executive Committee's decisions. He said: In return, I have asked that the Amal Movement stop its campaign of eviction against Christians and cease its confiscation of their property. I have requested that it give the necessary guarantees of safety to those who are forced to travel between the two parts of Beirut at this particular time. We hope to reach a final solution regarding the issue of kidnapped people and the security of the crossing points, he concluded.

2 Crossings Reopen

NC250902 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
 0800 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] Apart from some isolated automatic weapons fire, the security situation along the traditional lines in Beirut, the southern suburb, and the mountain area has been calm this morning.

Security sources have reported that the Al-Masalih-Qasqas and the Al-Kafa'at-Al-Murayjah crossing points were reopened today. Convoys carrying fuel and other supplies passed through the two crossings toward West Beirut as scheduled.

The fierce fighting in Tripoli, which continued throughout the night, subsided this morning. Shells fell on most of the city's streets and neighborhoods last night, claiming an undetermined number of additional dead and wounded.

Fighting with heavy-caliber weapons and rockets took place along the 'Ayn al-Mir-Lib'a-Kafr Falus line in the Sidon District at midnight last night. The clashes caused property damage.

Birri Bodyguard Found Dead; PSP Offices on Alert
NC241343 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
 1245 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has instructed personnel in all its offices in West Beirut to remain cautious and alert in the wake of the discovery of the body of Khidr 'Atwah, a bodyguard for Minister Nabih Birri. 'Atwah was found shot dead in the 'Aramun area.

Amal Kidnaps Palestinians; Clashes With Hizballah
NC241358 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
 1245 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Amal Movement gunmen riding in a vehicle kidnapped two Palestinians in Mahallat al-Mashnuq in West Beirut this afternoon. An exchange of machinegun fire has been raging since then between Amal gunmen positioned in the Al-In'ash Building and Palestinian gunmen located on the outskirts of Burj al-Barajinah camp.

Security reports from the south reveal that a clash broke out this morning between Amal and Hizballah gunmen south of Sidon. Palestinians fought on the side of Hizballah. It has been learned that gunmen from both Hizballah and Amal have been wounded.

Intermittent Artillery Clashes Reported in Beirut
NC250435 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
 0300 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] During the night, intermittent exchanges of fire involving the use of artillery, rockets, and heavy-caliber machineguns took place along the traditional combat lines in Beirut. The casualty toll of the night's fighting, which subsided at dawn today, has not been determined.

It has been noticed that explosive sniper bullets and RPG's were fired over West Beirut during the night. Certain media known to be malicious reported that these explosions were the result of fighting in areas of West Beirut. RPG's were also fired at the areas of Al-Shiyah, Al-Laylakah, and Al-Amrusiyah, in the southern suburb.

Shi'ite Council Voices Support for 27 Sep Strike

*NC241857 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Statement by the Lebanese Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council on 24 September]

[Text] The Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, guided by its deep concern over the issue of security and stability in Beirut and the need to end the eccentric practices to which the citizens are being subjected, and proceeding from its strong desire to implement the resolutions adopted by the expanded Islamic conference in Damascus, declares its support for the emergency Islamic meeting's call for a general strike on 27 September.

Amal Supports Strike

*NC250754 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0300 GMT 25 Sep 85*

[Statement Issued by Lebanon's Amal Movement; date not given — read by announcer]

[Text] Following communication with Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri, the Amal Movement's Leadership Committee held an extraordinary meeting to discuss the security situation in West Beirut. The following decisions were reached:

1. The movement supports the strike called for Friday by the Islamic Grouping. The movement calls on all of its leaders, members, supporters, and the general public to participate in the strike.
2. The movement reaffirms its commitment to close its offices in all areas of West Beirut, in implementation of the coordination committee's decision following the Damascus meeting. The movement calls on the coordination committee to ensure the implementation of the decision.
3. The movement has adopted a number of security and military measures following a meeting of its security commands in West Beirut. These measures seek to reassure the citizens.

Resistance Group Attacks Israeli-Lahd Position

*NC242033 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Statement issued by the Lebanese National Resistance Front on 24 September]

[Text] In implementation of the decision made by the Lebanese National Resistance Front Command on the occasion of the 3d

anniversary of its inception, the Martyr Hasan 'Ali Musa Group attacked a position jointly held by the Israeli enemy and agent Lahd militias in Tallat Zumriyah, north of the Al-Hasbani River, at dawn today. The operation was carried out by four squads as follows:

1. The first squad stormed the position, using rockets and machineguns against it for 15 minutes. The position was set on fire, and the blaze could be seen from the nearby villages of Limays and Burj al-Zuhurah. The fires reached as far as the soldiers' barracks, damaging a tracked vehicle.
2. A support squad, assigned to silence the enemy's source of fire, then managed to destroy a 12.7mm machinegun.
3. A protection squad was made responsible for blocking the enemy's supply line.
4. An artillery squad shelled the agent Lahd Army Command headquarters at Al-Khalil Palace near the Zaghlal Club. The position received direct hits, but the group could not estimate the enemy casualties. In response to the casualties inflicted upon their ranks during the 20-minute attack, agent Lahd personnel manning artillery emplacements in the Abu Qamhah area shelled the squad locations. Tanks from a nearby position also participated in the shelling. Despite the fierce confrontation, the martyr group members returned safely to their base.

On the occasion of its 3d anniversary, and in honor of all its martyrs and the martyrs from all other national villages, the Lebanese National Resistance Front has renewed its pledge to continue the struggle until the unconditional liberation of all national territory is achieved.

Lebanon

New Ambassador to USSR — Prime Minister Rashid Karami today received Mr Rabi'ah Haydar, the new Lebanese ambassador to Moscow. Karami provided the new ambassador with instructions prior to his departure for Moscow to assume his post in the Soviet Union. [Text] *[Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 13 Sep 85 NC]*

New Ambassadors Appointed — Khalil al-Khalil, Lebanon's new ambassador to the Netherlands, will assume his duties there on 15 September. Al-Khalil replaces Salah Statiyah, who is moving to his new post in Rabat on 14 September. [Excerpt] *[Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 11 Sep 85 NC]*

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Ol-Eslam Visits**Received by Al-Asad**

JN241154 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam at 1330 today. Shaykh ol-Eslam conveyed the greetings of Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to President Hafiz al-Asad. The president accepted the greetings with thanks and asked Sheykh ol-Eslam to convey his greetings to President Khamene'i and the friendly Iranian people. The talks dealt with the situation in the region and issues of common interest.

Meets Al-Sahr'

JN241833 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam this evening in the presence of Assistant Foreign Minister Rashid al-Kilani. During the meeting talks revolved around the current situation in the region, as well as issues of mutual concern.

Talks With Khaddam

JN242047 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus — Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam this evening. The meeting was attended by the Iranian charge d'affaires in Damascus. Talks revolved around the situation in the region.

Al-Asad, Khaddam Meet Cypriot Justice Minister

JN241222 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received Dimitrakis Liveras, Cypriot minister of justice and presidential affairs, at 1230 today.

The Cypriot ambassador in Damascus, Yeorios Likourgos, attended the meeting. President al-Asad received from Liveras a message from Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou. The talks dealt with the situation in the region and issues of common interest.

Discuss Bilateral Cooperation

JN241838 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Dimitrakis Liveras, Cypriot minister of justice and presidential affairs, this evening. Justice Minister Sha'ban Shahin and the Cypriot ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. Talks revolved around the situation in the region and bilateral cooperation.

PNSF Cited on Treatment of Palestinian Prisoners

JN250736 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0315 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] Damascus — The Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF] has severely denounced the barbaric measures and the fascist coercive campaigns practiced by the Zionist occupation authorities against the Palestinian strugglers in prisons and detention centers.

In a press statement issued in Damascus yesterday, the Front emphasized that the Palestinian prisoners are currently exposed to a barbaric onslaught by the management of Israeli prisons in a hopeless attempt to compel them to relinquish the victories achieved by their companions who paid the price in blood and suffering. The statement explained that the occupation authorities are practicing the most repugnant torture methods against Palestinian prisoners. It pointed to the absence of medical care and the international community's disregard of this situation.

Concluding its statement, the Front called on all honest men and the democratic and juristic organizations in the world to support the Palestinian prisoners in their struggle for the right to live in accordance with the international norms and practices and affirmed the need to form a fact-finding committee to investigate the practices of the Zionist enemy against the Palestinian strugglers.

Rabin Says Syria Not 'Serious Threat' at Present
TA241050 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
 24 Sep 85 p 3

[Report by Avi Benayahu]

[Excerpt] "The Syrian Army has become much stronger. Syria by itself, however, does not pose a serious threat to Israel. The IDF must be well prepared for the possibility that Syria will initiate an action and ensure that such an initiative will end in an overwhelming Syrian failure. On the basis of Jordan's present stands, I see no chance of the Syrians trying to implement a military option. As long as there are no negotiations between Jordan and Israel, the Syrians will concentrate on backing the pro-Syrian PLO faction's terrorism." These remarks were made by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in an interview which appears today in the United Kibbutz Movement organ *YAHAD*.

Rabin thinks Jordan believes that if it starts negotiating with Israel it could later manipulate the PLO. "I believe this is a serious illusion on Jordan's part. So far the PLO is the only one benefiting, mainly due to the opening of Jordan's gates to the PLO and the absorption of all its political, economic, and terrorist headquarters in Amman," Rabin said.

Messages Sent to Birri To End Katyusha Attacks
TA241003 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 24 Sep 85 p 2

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Dan Avidan]

[Excerpt] Over the last few days Israel has conveyed messages to "Amal" leader Nabih Birri, saying he must see to it that an end is put to katyusha attacks from southern Lebanon on settlements in northern Israel. These messages were conveyed by IDF officers through UNIFIL commanders and the "Amal" leader in the Tyre area, Da'ud Da'ud. This was reported by Lebanese sources yesterday. It should be noted that the firing of katyushas toward the northern settlements is usually not perpetrated by "Amal" fighters, but rather by extremist Palestinian and Shi'ite elements who object to Nabih Birri's cautious policy toward Israel.

Israel, however, considers the "Amal" organization responsible for preventing the katyusha attacks on the northern settlements. These attacks originate from areas in southern Lebanon from which the IDF withdrew and which are now under "Amal" control.

IDF Commander Discusses Rise in Katyusha Attacks
TA241655 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1040 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Interview with Major General Ori Or, commander of the IDF Northern Command, by correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz, on 24 September — recorded]

[Text] [Horowitz] Maj Gen Ori Or, I would say that there have been many cases of katyusha attacks on the western Galilee and Galilee panhandle over the past few weeks. Is there a change here, a worsening in this situation?

[Or] The fact that katyushas fall in Israel proves that the situation has worsened. I still cannot say whether there is a change here, but if this continues... [changes thought] It is true that so far we have had no casualties, and this is very important. But undoubtedly more katyushas have fallen recently in Israeli territory than in previous months. There is indeed a rising curve here. The numbers will tell if this is a process or not.

[Horowitz] Last night the katyushas were launched from the security strip?

[Or] As far as we know at present — we do not know whether the people came from the security strip — apparently the katyushas were launched from there. We can tell this from the caliber of the katyushas and from range calculations.

[Horowitz] In the past few months the katyushas, which were 122-mm shells, were usually fired from outside the security strip?

[Or] Most of the katyusha attacks, except for this one, I believe, originated from outside the security strip. Let me repeat, however, that we still do not know where the perpetrators came from. Perhaps they came from outside the security strip; currently we are investigating this issue.

[Horowitz] What about the issue of cooperation between Amal and the terrorists, if there is such cooperation? To what extent can they prevent, or decrease these katyusha attacks, or prevent the infiltration of terrorists into the security strip?

[Or] Amal is trying to prevent this infiltration, but we must remember that there are additional organizations and that there is no unity in Amal. This is why there is no central force. Amal is more dominant, but it does not control the area. We do not know who perpetrated this attack, but there is no central control in this area. Neither Amal nor any other group, certainly not the Lebanese Government, controls the area north of the security strip. Therefore there are people taking advantage of the situation, and as you can see, the katyushas have reached our territory.

[Horowitz] Maj Gen Ori Or, can you tell us to what extent the IDF will be able to prevent the katyusha attacks on Yom Kippur next year in the Galilee panhandle?

[Or] Prophecy has been given to fools. We will do everything possible to prevent the firing of katyushas on the Galilee panhandle and the western Galilee. I want to note that the inhabitants of the Galilee panhandle are showing very mature behavior, despite the increase in attacks. I hope this behavior will continue in the future.

Egypt Allows Return of Yacht After 6 Months
TA240956 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Sep 85 p 3

[Report by Eytan Rabin]

[Text] Egypt allowed the owner of the Israeli yacht 'Eden, held by the Egyptians for more than 6 months, to transport the yacht on a semitrailer to Elat yesterday. It has been learned that the

Egyptian authorities even helped the yacht owner and did not charge him a fee. The 'Eden was held by the Egyptians in the Al-Nuwaybi' pier. It was severely damaged in a storm, and despite 6 months of contacts for its return, it was only returned yesterday.

It should be noted that a speedboat belonging to the Elat Club Mediteranee has been held by the Egyptian authorities in Al-Nuwaybi' for more than 7 months. A high-level Israeli source told HA'ARETZ that since the renewal of the talks and contacts between Egypt and Israel on the Tabah issue, the Egyptians have again changed their attitude in the region and are now showing goodwill.

2 Terrorist Organizations Establish Naval Units

TA241029 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Sep 85 p 2

[Report by military correspondent Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] Another two terrorist organizations recently established maritime terrorist units. The organizations are Ahmad Jibril's PFLP-GC and the National Syrian Social Party. To date Fatah was the organization active in the area of naval terrorist attacks.

Boy Slightly Wounded by IDF Shots in Gaza

TA241045 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] An IDF infantry patrol in Gaza yesterday was forced to shoot at the tires of a suspicious truck whose driver refused repeated calls to halt. The driver continued at a high speed even after shots were fired in the air. Our correspondent Moshe Halevi reports that a child in the truck was slightly wounded from the shots. A military physician treated him and he was later transferred to the hospital. A preliminary investigation showed the soldiers of the patrol acted according to the regulations and procedures on opening fire.

IDF Patrol Shoots, Wounds Hebron Resident

TA251650 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] An IDF patrol shot and wounded a Hebron resident who tried to escape after he was ordered to identify himself. Security sources told our correspondent Arye Gus that an initial investigation indicated that the soldiers acted according to regulations. The man was wounded in the shoulder and was taken to the Hebron 'Alya Hospital for treatment.

British Invitation to PLO Members Analyzed

TA241159 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Sep 85 p 12

[Article from London by Sha'ul Tzadqa: "A Small Initiative" of 'Circumvention"]

[Text] Before her departure for Egypt and Jordan on the eve of Rosh Hashanah, Margaret Thatcher's confidants took pains to

make it clear that Britain was not aiming at any political move in the Middle East. They said matters of interest to the three countries would be on the agenda. In a considerable effort to lessen the political profile of the trip, London announced that it only involved reciprocal visits to Cairo and Amman, the proof of this being that Thatcher took her husband along with her.

It is exactly because of the chorus of "do not expect much" that suspicion has arisen that she placed a rabbit in her hat on the eve of her departure. This impression was somewhat blurred by the clouds of the aircraft deal with Saudi Arabia and the general course of her quite routine visit in Egypt. Even during the first part of her visit to Jordan it seemed that Britain was not going to be the savior of Husayn and the entire region. Suddenly, during a news conference in Aqaba shortly before her return home, she dropped the political bomb described here as "a very important step forward." London will be the first Western capital to host a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that is going to find its way from there to the desired goal or destination: Washington.

However, astonishment need not be shared by those who remember the events of the first week of June in the English capital, when Husayn paid one of his regular, bimonthly visits to this capital. In the course of the visit he met Thatcher for more than 24 hours after she exchanged harsh remarks in her office with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. The Jordanian king did not conceal his desire for Britain to again take an active part in events in the region in order to lead Europe to a serious initiative and influence President Reagan.

However, her most important meeting was neither with Shamir nor with Husayn, but with Secretary of State George Shultz, who arrived that same day in London for a lightning meeting with U.S. diplomats and entered Thatcher's office without any prior planning. The Middle East was the only issue the two discussed. The following day several political reporters in London learned that Thatcher would arrive in the Middle East in September to try to address a possible solution of the Israeli-Arab conflict. In other words, it is not only that the United States knew Thatcher's intentions, as they emerged in her talks with Husayn, but even gave them its blessing. Shultz himself publicized this.

The failure of Murphy's mission was indeed clear to everybody, but Britain's mind was already engaged in launching "a small initiative," as Thatcher put it in Aqaba, which would run parallel to the U.S. moves with maximum coordination and without clashing with them. Prior to her departure for Cairo she already had the names of Milhim and Khuri in her hat, and the White House knew about her intention to pull them out at the end of her trip. Thatcher herself said later: "That was our own decision, but as is our habit, we informed the Americans of it, without getting any reaction from them."

This statement may trigger smiles, of course, but it reinforced the assumption that the U.S. "green light" needs no unnecessary interpretations. The British leader even clearly said in her news conference near Elat that "we hope the United States will follow us." Thatcher even provided Washington with an operational outline. "The United States," Thatcher emphasized, "need not choose the same names since the list Husayn submitted to Murphy includes enough names to choose the four suitable ones."

Thatcher, of course, preferred to choose a pair not on that famous list in order to refrain from invading another's sphere, and her confidants gave the impression that she was rescuing Reagan from the trap of the Jewish lobby foiling his attempts to promote the political process by yet another move.

It is needless to mention that the architect of this "circumvention move" was King Husayn. The Jordanian king tried, for several months, to convince Thatcher to throw herself into the political whirlpool in our region, while taking advantage of her tight friendship with President Reagan. Mubarak also gave this expression. Britain's advantage, he said a week ago, is its good relations with Jordan, Egypt, and Israel, as well as its closeness to the United States.

A considerable portion of Britain's willingness to roll up its sleeves and tread the minefield in this part of the world, for the first time since the Suez campaign, stems from the warm friendship that developed over the years between the London and Amman leaders, with the desire also to use this friendship in the connection between the former and Washington. However, this is only one of the secrets underlying Britain's motives. After long years of disappointment on the international weaponry market, it is convinced it will be able to sell its planes and tanks in the Middle East arms bazaar only if it steps into the political conflict there and offers mediation services, as well as the creation of an appropriate atmosphere for the moderate Arab countries, which are struggling against the rejectionist front.

Therefore, the arms deals struck with Saudi Arabia (3 billion pounds sterling) and Jordan (270 million pounds sterling), as well as the arms deals that will still be struck (with Jordan again, as well as with Kuwait and Egypt), should be viewed as an integral part of the willingness to extend a hand to Husayn and to support the agreement he signed with 'Arafat. It is against this background that one should see Thatcher's emotional visit to the refugee camp north of Amman and the repeated praises she sent toward Husayn, whom she compared to Al-Sadat from the point of view of courage.

The meeting in London next month with Muhammad Milhim and Ilyas Khuri, on the one hand, and with 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali and Tahir al-Masri from Jordan, on the other, will be carefully planned, just like the first British move that just ended. The Palestinian pair will meet with Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Geoffrey Howe (not with Thatcher who is careful about meetings with PLO members), and will declare — again — its denunciation of terrorism and the adoption of UN Resolution 242, which is interpreted in London as full recognition of Israel. Thatcher, who emphasized in Aqaba that the invitation of the two is not tantamount to any recognition of the PLO although she is aware of their membership in the organization, will view the declaration as a precedent and as preparing the political ground for the United States.

The Foreign Office will do everything it can to see that the visit is crowned with success. Milhim and Khuri, who will be received by the secretary of state of quite an important country, will be at the center of the international media and will try to convince the West of Yasir 'Arafat's moderation. It is possible that then, as they will have done their job, the British will want to gradually and slowly withdraw from the game, transferring the ball to the court of the friend across the Atlantic Ocean. After all, it is their leader who said: "We are creating a framework for operation but cannot be the leading actor."

There will be problems, too. In Parliament Thatcher represents one of the constituencies of northwest London that is populated by almost 50 percent Jews. Many of them have already expressed discontent about the invitation of the delegation, which includes people who were expelled from Israel; they have already reminded their representative in Parliament of her undertaking not to talk with any type of terrorist. The heads of the Jewish community have already protested against the aircraft deal with Saudi Arabia, but Thatcher will view these protests as a hurdle that is quite easy to overcome. She will repeat her refusal to recognize the PLO as long as this organization evades official recognition of Israel; she will invite Peres to London; she will travel to him in Jerusalem and will thus soothe the critics in her constituency.

There are, indeed, four key Jewish secretaries in her government (the chief secretary of the Treasury, the secretary of state for trade and industry, the secretary of state for education and science, and the secretary of state for employment), but it is not to be assumed that they will dare voice their opinion on such matters. Besides, elections are not around the corner and anything is possible in the coming 3 years. One should add here that Neil Kinnock, the leader of the Labor Party, the main opposition party, congratulated Thatcher on her initiative and even the Liberals are not opposed to it. Will the Jews then find a better party, one which will better reflect their feelings toward Israel? Also, even though Thatcher took a certain risk, in the event of a failure it can always be said that she tried. In the meantime, she will have gained the sympathy of the pro-West Arab world, strengthened her status in Europe, sold arms, prevented unemployment in her country, emerged as a leader with international pretensions — and did not even anger the United States. Was it possible to expect a more successful trip than this one?

LIBYA

Kuwaiti Paper Interviews Libya's al-Qadhafi
GF201100 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 19 Sep 85
 pp 10, 11, 15

[Interview with Libyan leader Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi by Muhammad Jasim al-Saqr, *AL-QABAS* chief editor, in Tripoli — date not given]

[Text] This interview with Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, took place after midnight in the same tent in which he had received Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam a little earlier. Khaddam visited Tripoli in order to inform him of the results of the efforts of the Arab reconciliation committee.

As usual, Al-Qadhafi was frank during the confrontational dialogue and head-to-head talk with *AL-QABAS* chief editor Muhammad Jasim al-Saqr. He was extremely frank in answering the questions posed by *AL-QABAS*. The questions themselves were bold and confrontational regarding the Libyan leader's stands, ideas, political analyses, and pan-Arab initiatives. The dialogue does not need a long introduction. It is long and frank and cannot be summarized in a few lines. Following is the interview, word for word, as recorded:

AL-QABAS: To begin with, we would like you to be patient with the questions that we will ask during this meeting. In fact they express the opinion of the simple, ordinary man in the Arab street. We also hope that brother Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi will tolerate some expressions of wonder that might appear to be in poor taste or exceed the known limits in an open dialogue with an Arab leader.

Al-Qadhafi: You are welcome. As you know, I speak with utter frankness. I have nothing to hide. A short while ago I heard some radio stations saying that I was the target of an assassination attempt. I do not understand how they can broadcast such fabricated reports.

AL-QABAS: Actually we have not heard such a report. By the way, what is your comment on such assassination reports?

Al-Qadhafi: Anybody can be the target of assassination. It is not a process that is rejected. Valiant men, cowards, traitors, and free men alike might be subjected to assassination. Even prophets were subjected to it. Al-Sadat was assassinated. An assassination can be carried out by a nonentity such as 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Muljim, who assassinated 'Ali ibn Abu Talib [the fourth Muslim caliph] or a valiant man like Khalid al-Islambuli, who assassinated Al-Sadat. However, when there is no assassination and news is fabricated about it, then it becomes ridiculous. Egyptian papers rejoice in such a method and fabricate reports that are totally unfounded — coups d'état, involvements, executions.

AL-QABAS: What are the facts about the recent rebellion against you, as reported by an Egyptian newspaper?

Al-Qadhafi: Let us suppose that some military units disobeyed the orders I issued to attack Tunisia, as they say. The rebels aside, has the attack actually taken place? [laughs]

AL-QABAS: Brother Mu'ammār, before we begin to ask questions, we have noticed that brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has been with you. No doubt he has come to inform you of the results of the efforts of the Arab reconciliation committee chaired by [Saudi crown prince] Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Is it possible to learn what took place during your meeting with Khaddam?

Al-Qadhafi: He has actually put us in the picture with regard to the activity of the committee. However, our objective analysis of the issue is that when there is a bilateral dispute, reconciliation can be achieved between the two sides when one party or the other makes a concession and the problem is resolved. When the disagreement is a political and essential one regarding pan-Arab causes, however, then reconciliation does not work. This means that it is not a matter for reconciliation. The disagreement with Syria, for instance, is not one over borders or matters of friction and other problems which respond to reconciliation. Not at all, the disagreement is over a pan-Arab cause. There will never be a reconciliation unless one of the parties backs down from its treasonous stands, or the other party moves from a correct stand to treason. How can you have reconciliation between a steadfast party and a treasonous one. To those who speak of Arab fraternity, I say there is no fraternity in such matters.

AL-QABAS: Can we achieve a minimum of agreement on basic issues, in preparation for the holding of the future Arab summit in Saudi Arabia?

Al-Qadhafi: These are, in reality, tranquilizers. Even the convening of the summit is a tranquilizer and does not resolve essential issues. All the Arabs have unity of soil and political unity [as published]. This means that there must necessarily be a clash. The motto of unity and confrontation is what imposes itself on us. It is possible for us and Tunisia to reconcile the issue of the Tunisian workers or the issue of borders or tourism. If Libya has expelled Tunisians, this is a matter on which one party can make a concession and reconciliation can follow. However, when the disagreement is over the pan-Arab cause, then there is no room for reconciliation. How can one reconcile with Al-Sadat, who recognized Israel, when we do not recognize something called Israel at all?

AL-QABAS: We are talking about the minimum level of agreement among Arab countries. We know that there are red lines that cannot be exceeded. However, differences are sweeping through the entire Arab world, differences among governments. Why should the Arab people suffer from this tragic situation? The Arab people have good intentions and reject this situation we now face due to the continued differences among Arab rulers and governments.

Al-Qadhafi: This supports the theory of the people saving themselves from governments and rulers so that they can survive. The people will live and there will be no problem. If governments, armies, and organs go, popular congresses and committees will

be set up as part of the masses system of each state. Peace will be established in the Arab world, indeed in the entire world, because people do not harbor ill intentions toward each other and do not invade each other. We hope that Arab governments, parliaments, parties, classes, and even Arab armies defeated in wars will disappear and be replaced by armed people and Arab masses who do not harbor malice. This is our call for unity of the Arab masses.

AL-QABAS: On the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the 1 September revolution, you proposed the theory that democracy, rule by the people, means that the people govern themselves instead of being represented. It is said that this experiment will probably succeed in Libya, for example, because Libya is not densely populated, but would be difficult to implement in other Arab countries with high population density. What is your comment?

Al-Qadhdhafi: On the contrary. A small country can be governed by central rule; it is possible for the ruler to steer things from the capital. The masses system becomes necessary when the population is large; it is not feasible for the leaders in Beijing to rule 1 billion people living in the PRC. The world Jamahiriyyah means autonomous rule or popular rule and comprehensive self rule because the masses rule themselves. A state council in Beijing cannot be familiar with all the PRC's problems without bases of local rule in each region. Also, in India we find that the central government in New Delhi is unable to rule Punjab and other provinces in India because the larger the population and the larger the country, the greater the need for a masses system.

AL-QABAS: But when the population is not large there will not be many popular committees. In big countries like the PRC and India, popular committees will be many; this will lead to disorder and mismanagement.

Al-Qadhdhafi: No, No. Congresses and committees everywhere mean popular congresses and popular committees here and there. These committees can meet and form general committees. It is possible for all the committees to form another general committee, according to the size of the population. The larger the country and the denser the population, the greater the need for the masses system because the world is moving toward popular rule. The future is for popular rule and the people will achieve it. This is now very clear all over the world, wherever opposition expands and wherever its participation in ruling becomes larger instead of the decisionmaking being kept confined to the individual and the autocrat. What is taking place now shows that all classes of people seek to participate in the rule and that opposition movements are becoming larger and are turning into fronts. This movement cannot halt in the middle of the road; it will not stop before all the people achieve rule. You can see with your own eyes that rule moves from one party to two parties and then to three or four, until participation moves from the bottom to the top, like a cone. This march continues and is inevitable; the masses are now participating in the rule. Parliamentary experiments are becoming ridiculous and parliamentary representation has proven false, because there cannot be representation for the people when the people are there. Parliamentary experiments are dying; they are in one world and the people are in another.

AL-QABAS: Brother leader, we want to speak about Kuwaiti-Libyan relations. These relations are characterized by stability and mutual fraternal understanding between two political leaderships in fraternal countries. Considering your meetings with the Kuwaiti officials, what is your assessment of Libyan-Kuwaiti relations and what is the role of Kuwait in the Arab arena?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I say that nothing can disturb the clear atmosphere between the two countries. There is mutual respect, confidence, and brotherhood as well. We have joint political, economic, and military coordination. We not only exchange amity and sentiments, but we strive to achieve material and positive coordination for the sake of the two countries, particularly since they do not rely on one another. The oil rich countries which are not densely populated do not rely on each other. They have joint projects to assist in clearing the atmosphere. Nonetheless, Kuwait has a respectful role. I like Kuwaiti positions despite the countries' location in a tense region. Actually Kuwait is against hegemony and arrogance. Once I visited that country. I told them: I would like to congratulate you on your independent decisionmaking and your stances. I had no other topic to discuss, but I deliberately wanted to say that and add that we laud Kuwait's stances and its independent decisionmaking.

AL-QABAS: Since our talk is about Kuwait's role and cooperation with Libya, we would like to draw your attention to the trend toward Arab blocs which has recently surfaced. The GCC, the integration between Sudan and Egypt, and the great Arab Maghreb project are examples of such blocs. Do you view this phenomenon as a step to achieve the great national goal of comprehensive Arab unity, or will these blocs lead, as others say, to the fixing of regional blocs in the great Arab homeland?

Al-Qadhdhafi: To God, the ideal of course is to achieve comprehensive Arab unity without blocs and axes. What is happening is totally different. Groupings are formed due to the deteriorating situation and fear that the Arab nation will disappear and fall apart. People have begun to accept these blocs as a fact and to encourage them so as to salvage what has remained. This is better than the disappearance and the destruction of the Arab nation. I wish that these blocs would become countries. It is better to have four great countries with conflicts than 20 backward countries. In this regard, I feel that there is a danger facing Arabism and the Arab nation. There is a great danger dashing hopes to achieve Arab unity. The current trend is for the state to rise above the nation. For example, there are Libyan, Kuwaiti, Algerian, and Syrian states. This trend distances us from Arabism, the nation, and unity. It is very dangerous and is our downfall, because midget states cannot exist in our time; they do not possess the characteristics to exist in the future.

AL-QABAS: Supporting your argument, we regrettably observe this dangerous trend to be everywhere, even in broadcasting stations and songs. All these factors enhance regional blocs. The trend to establish Arabism and unity, which we encountered during the era of the late Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir, has disappeared. Even the educational curriculum is currently devoted to deepening the idea of regional blocs among the new generation.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, the concept of the state replaces the concept of the nation. It is a very dangerous trend. I cannot see that even my country will be able to exist in this era, the era of the giants, the great blocs, and the great potential to reach outer space. No Arab country is able to build a satellite, rockets to reach the moon, aircraft carriers, fighters, or submarines. We do not have these capabilities.

The national income of Italy, for instance, exceeds the total national income of all Arab countries. The Arabs believe that they are rich countries. They believe that Libya or Kuwait are among the rich countries. If all Arab countries were joined they would form a country equal in size to Nigeria, for instance, or Yugoslavia. In the future, every Arab country will, for instance, be incapable of solving the education problem. The Arab countries will be incapable of absorbing the new generations. There are actually Arab countries presently incapable of absorbing the new children in schools because they do not have the resources to do so. This implies that the Arabs will suffer anew from the proliferation of illiteracy. This is a genuine danger. We have two options — either we attain Arab unity by force before this nation collapses, or the Arabs sit at a round table and draft the union plan according to prevailing conditions.

I opted for proceeding with the peaceful solution of the unionist pan-Arab trend and presented a unionist draft plan, which was conveyed to all the Arab countries. I set forth that a union could be established among the currently existing regimes. It is the nature of the plan to preserve the existence of every regime in order to prompt the Arabs to accept the union plan. According to the plan, all the Arab leaders would become members of a presidential council. The chairmanship of the council would be rotated among the leaders. Thus there would be an opportunity for every Arab leader to be president of all the Arabs during a rotational period. In addition, a union ministerial council would be formed. Chairmanship would be rotated among Arab prime ministers. In other words, all Arab prime ministers would have the opportunity to be the prime minister of all the Arabs, and so forth. This is the last opportunity to establish Arab unity, or the flood will come!

The Arab countries are currently midget countries. They have only this opportunity to attain Arab unity. Many are opposed to unity because they wish to defend their positions. The plan preserves their positions and, moreover, paves the way for expanded authority of their positions and make those stances more comprehensive. This is the political aspect of the plan. As for the context, the union includes a number of economic and financial plans. It includes the formation of an Arab body for seed and food. The duties of this body would be to ensure Arab self-sufficiency in those areas. Another body for gas would be established to provide a network linking all Arab countries. Similarly, a body for water would be established to link all the Arab rivers. The project of the great Arab river, in which Saudi Arabia and Kuwait did not take part, would be implemented. The rivers, such as the Nile, the Tigris, and the Euphrates, would be linked through a unionist effort to convert the Arab Sahara into vast green areas.

AL-QABAS: This is a genuine act at the Arab world level...

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, in the field of scientific research a body for scientific research would then gather all the efforts of the scientists in the Arab world. Success in the technical field cannot be attained under the situation that currently exists in the Arab world. For example, not a single Arab country is capable of achievements in the fields of nuclear energy or lasers, or in manufacturing airplanes. Even the European countries, though each is equal to all the Arab countries, cannot manufacture airplanes on their own. France, Britain, and Italy combine efforts to manufacture a single plane. They succeed in manufacturing civilian or war aircraft only through the joint efforts of huge and advanced countries. We, in the Arab world, have no future. That is why I proposed the union plan which includes economic and political frameworks. If the Arab leaders do not accept this plan, there will be revenge. Violence will certainly ensue.

AL-QABAS: Did you receive replies from the Arab leaders on the plan?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We received some replies. The foremost was from [UAE President] Shaykh Zayid and one from Kuwait. There were other replies. No one said no, but all said that the Arabs have to convene and peruse the plan.

AL-QABAS: You said a while ago that if the plan is rejected, revenge will begin. We do not understand what this means.

Al-Qadhdhafi: This means that the Arab citizen himself will carry out revenge, because if Arab rulers do not accept this peace proposal to bring them together to forge this union willingly, they will destroy our future. I am sure that the Arab citizen will take revenge against his rulers. I will then be the first to encourage revenge and to incite disorder in the Arab world. I will be the first to encourage disrespect for lands, borders, thrones, and all artificial considerations.

AL-QABAS: Do you really see that in the current Arab situation the ordinary Arab citizen can defy the authorities?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Revenge will begin and I will be the first to encourage rebellion, revolution, and disorder, after which the Arab nation will be saved. The Arab nation has to endure surgery, which will involve much blood, sweat, and victims, until the nation is united. We will be forced to undertake adventure to save the Arab nation, because when one has a dying relative in need of a serious operation to save his life, one makes him undergo this operation at all costs. Is that not true?

AL-QABAS: But we are now facing a different situation in the Arab world. During the past years, an Islamic trend has emerged as a rival to Arabism. Perhaps the Iraq-Iran war underlines the conflict between those seeking to unite the Arab nation and those defending it. This contradiction continues with the continued Gulf war.

Al-Qadhdhafi: No, the situation is not like that. Neither this side is fighting for Islamic unity nor that side is defending the Arabs' gate.

AL-QABAS: Some raise these slogans. An example is the widespread Islamic current in the region.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Religion has nothing to do with politics; religion consists of morals, education, and ideals which man should uphold. The basis of any religion, not only Islam, is morals and education for the Muslim and non-Muslim believer. This is not a political issue. When we construct a hotel, no Islamic rule is needed to construct it. When we intend to construct a new road, there is no disagreement on how to construct it, a road is a road. An airport is an airport; there is no Islamic and non-Islamic airport.

Likewise, there is nothing called Islamic rule; rule is to steer economic, social, and political matters. Man should dispose of these things himself whether he has faith or not. Involving religion in such matters is quackery and a maneuver to gain in the name of religion. At some point, the Muslim Brotherhood achieved rule in Sudan. They did nothing except chop off people's hands and legs. After that, they themselves were cut to pieces.

AL-QABAS: Brother leader, in Kuwait and the Gulf, the people look to the position of the Jamahiriya toward the war raging between Iran and Iraq with extreme attention. Frankly speaking, your position toward this dispute is not very clear to the average person, particularly as one of the sides to the war is a fraternal Arab country which is supposed to receive aid from all the brothers. On what do you base your position toward the war raging between the two Muslim countries?

Al-Qadhdhafi: First of all, the shah ruled Iran earlier. He was extremely antagonistic to the Arab world. He was a racist. He loathed pan-Arab feelings. He occupied the islands of Tunb the greater and Tunb the lesser in addition to Abu Musa Island. He had ambitions in Shatt al-'Arab. He was an agent of the United States. He supplied the Israeli entity with oil. He also cooperated with Israel and South Africa. His country was a U.S. base. He was, moreover, extremely arrogant in dealing with the Arab nation.

We were the first people to call for fighting Iran, for using force and Arab armies to liberate the islands by force and to fight the shah. At that moment, Saddam came and signed the 1975 agreement in Algiers. He shook hands with the shah and relinquished Shatt al-'Arab. We were the side that rejected the agreement and the treaty. We also rejected relinquishing Shatt al-'Arab and the Arab islands and the truce with the shah. We demanded launching war against him. We noticed that he later visited Syria, Algeria, and Egypt. He even visited most of the Arab countries and convinced them of his position on the truce with the shah. We were the only side to call for a revolution against the shah. The Arabs used to say that this was an unheeded call and that it was illogical for Iran to rise against him because he was an ally of the United States and could not be deposed. We told them this was not true. Over the radio stations we actually began to call for a revolution directed toward Iran from Libya. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Khamene'i, and Montazeri told me that they used to listen to these speeches when they were in prison and that these stations provided them with power. The Pakistani prime minister visited the shah and asked him about the situation. The shah told him: Ask your friend Al-Qadhdhafi. In other words we were the side to cause him trouble. Whenever explosions took place or whenever there was a development, *KEYHAN* and other papers reported that Al-Qadhdhafi or Libya

were behind it. The free people of Iran responded and launched the revolution. The shah collapsed and the revolution stood up against the United States and against Israel. The revolution allied itself with the Palestinian people and with the Arab nation against the racism of South Africa. Then, are we going to oppose the revolution? This is an immoral position. How can we oppose a revolution we called for and instigated? This can never be. This is an immoral position.

It is regrettable that Iran is engaged in a war with an Arab country. This situation is very critical for us since we cannot fight the revolution. But this revolution is clashing with an Arab country. This position is certainly very critical to us. Our position was very beneficial for Iran from the political aspect, as we did not make this war seem an Arab-Persian war. Had this war taken place during the shah's days it would certainly be an Arab-Persian war. We called for this war then. Now, this war is not between the Arab and the Persians. It is a war between the revolutionaries and the nonrevolutionaries.

AL-QABAS: Actually the facts contradict this. At the beginning you said that Iraq surrendered Shatt al-'Arab according to an agreement with the shah signed in 1975. However, as we know, Iraq did not surrender Shatt al-'Arab, but was in a weak position at that time. Had it not reached that agreement, Iraq could have lost a great deal. It happened that an agreement was reached on Shatt al-'Arab. When the war broke out, and the Iraqis reached the Iranian territories and later retreated, they asked that the war be stopped. They still ask this. Iran always refuses. This is on one hand. On the other, I cannot abandon my Arab nationality. I do not view that the brothers in Iran present this issue from an Arab point of view. In the end Iran is a Persian country. Iraq is an Arab country, its people are an Arab people. In addition to that, all the GCC states are affected by maritime piracy, attacks against oil tankers and commercial liners, and the sectarian conflicts that might emerge in the course of this war. Iraq is looking forward to peace. At least the friendly countries should try to convince Iran to stop the war. Moreover, Iran has not expressed good intentions by calling the Gulf by its correct name — it still calls it the Persian Gulf. It also has not expressed good will by giving back the Arab islands occupied during the shah's regime. As an Arab leader calling for Arabism and Arab unity, you know that this war is a war between an Arab country and a Persian country. I see that we express the same views as laymen, and not the views of our governments or those of Iraq. Do you know that all the peoples of the Gulf support Iraq?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The understanding of the layman is different from the actual fact. The Arab world's current stand is a sentimental one. The real stand is adopted by those well aware of the facts. This war is not between the Arabs and the Persians, it is between the U.S. bloc and an anti-U.S. bloc. We cannot fight on the side of King Husayn and Husni Mubarak, although both of them fight on the side of Saddam. What sort of war can Husni Mubarak wage? It is a U.S. war.

AL-QABAS: But Jordan and Egypt support Iraq as part of their pan-Arab duty and as an answer to the call for Arabism.

Al-Qadhdhafi: No, it is not for Arabism. If this is correct, then Mubarak must close down the embassy of the Israeli enemy in

the defeated city [Cairo]. Why does pan-Arab sentiment emerge only when fighting against the Iranian revolution? Pan-Arabism begins in Sinai and never in Cairo. This is a U.S. war. I will not fight on the side of Husni Mubarak and King Husayn whatever the circumstances might be, even if Iran occupied half of the Arab homeland. As long as the Iranians fight against the United States, I will support them. That means Iran is right. The other side is the U.S. side. I will never be on the same side as the United States. How can that be?

AL-QABAS: But Iran is pushing Iraq in this direction because it refuses to end the war. Iraq was the first country to sever diplomatic relations with the United States in 1967. The Arab summit, which decided to sever Arab relations with Egypt during the Al-Sadat era, was convened in Iraq. Iraq demanded that Al-Sadat be brought to an Arab trial.

Al-Qadhdhafi: In my view this is pure quackery. How can Egypt change its stances and policies and still adhere to the Camp David accords? Iraq was the first country to recognize and to restore its relations with Egypt.

AL-QABAS: But Iraq has not restored its relations with Egypt.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Iraq would have respected the Arabs more if it had restored relations with Egypt. It restored everything else without restoring relations. It underrates the Arabs as if they are children. Saddam Husayn goes to Mubarak and they embrace each other. Everything is all right. We are not children that can be fooled by this talk. It is better that these relations are restored than to continue with what is happening now.

AL-QABAS: All right, in your view, how can this devastating war be halted?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The true fact is that we are in an embarrassing position. This stand is a U.S. and reactionary one and not a pan-Arab one [sentence as published]. When the shah was ruling Iran, Arabs did not consider Iran Persian, particularly the Gulf Arabs. It was a Muslim country and a neighboring ally because the United States was the common denominator at that time. After Iran became revolutionary, the Arabs began calling it Persian. Iran is not Persian, never; this is a U.S. war between revolutionaries and nonrevolutionaries. For me, I cannot but side with the revolutionary camp; it does not honor me to fight with...even if Iran, and not the United States takes the entire Arab land.

AL-QABAS: If Iran is not Persian, why does it call the Gulf the Persian Gulf?

Al-Qadhdhafi: First, when Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i visited Libya, I told him: The Arab islands were occupied by the shah. Why do you keep the islands and call the Gulf the Persian Gulf? When Khamene'i talked to me, he used the term Persian Gulf. I asked him: Excuse me, you say the Persian Gulf and we say that this Gulf is Arab, we should settle this point. He told me: Make other Arabs revolutionaries like you, and then call it the Persian Gulf, the Kuwaiti Gulf, or the Qurayshi [reference to the prophet's tribe]. I said the same about the islands. Khamene'i said: If the Arabs on the other coast are

revolutionaries and are against the United States, I will hand the islands over to them tomorrow. But if I give them the islands today, these islands will become U.S. bases against Iran. If the islands are given back to the Arabs, they will be given to the U.S. 7th Fleet.

AL-QABAS: But the settlement Iran is talking about refers to the establishment of the so-called Islamic revolution in Iraq. Do you agree with the principle of exporting the revolution from one country to another through war? Is this not a blatant intervention in countries' internal affairs and in the will of their people?

Al-Qadhdhafi: My stand is clear on this issue. I conveyed it to the Iranians. If Iran intends to change the situation in Iraq into the so-called imam's rule [wilayat al-faqih] or into a Shi'ite state or a state tied to the Supreme Council in Iran, I believe Iran in that case will be an imperialist; this will be Persian colonialism. In this case, we will fight Iran and will be the first to go to Iraq to fight. However, we have an opportunity to wait and see if Iran means what it says and whether it tries to annex Iraq, colonize it, and turn it into a Shi'ite state or over to the imam's rule. If this happens, we will fight it. This is very clear.

AL-QABAS: If you are against sectarianism in revolutions and say that revolution is one thing and attempting to impose the hegemony of a religion on another is something else, then this brings us automatically to what is currently taking place in Lebanon. During the past 10 years, the war in Lebanon has developed from a patriotic war against injustice and then against Israeli occupation — where it succeeded in expelling the Israeli invasion army — into sectarian fighting among the Sunnis, Shi'ites, Druze, and others. The internecine fighting broke out within the ranks of the Muslims themselves. This very thing may take place on the eastern front between Iran and Iraq. In other words, the matter may end up in a sectarian war between the Sunnis and the Shi'ites. This is a grave matter that threatens the whole Gulf region.

Al-Qadhdhafi: I am against Sunnism, Shi'ism, and sectarianism. These are political parties fighting among themselves for power. They came into being after the revelation of the Koran. They have nothing to do with religion. If Sunnism is the prophet's tradition, then everyone should be Sunni. I do not believe that there is a Muslim who says he does not follow the prophet's tradition. Even the Iranians follow this tradition. This Shi'ite issue is legendary. It ended with Imam 'Ali ibn Abu Talib. Whatever came after him has no value. I believe that contemporary Arabs sympathize with 'Ali or at least support him but their swords are sided with the United States!

AL-QABAS: During your meetings, did the Iranian leaders inform you that they oppose sectarianism?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Of course they are against it. They do not say that they are Shi'ites, Ja'farites, Persians, or Arabs. They say they are Muslims. This is their view and you should publish this in order to reveal the truth. This is their view. They say that they are fighting an Islamic revolution against the United States, Zionism, and racism. If they say that theirs is a Shi'ite revolution, then this means that it is sectarian by nature and is not fit to be a revolution.

AL-QABAS: This is what they say. But facts reveal completely different things. This is clear at least to us in the Persian Gulf.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Let us then leave things until they become clear. If they are sectarians, our stand is clear on sectarianism. For me, sectarianism, reactionism, facism, and Zionism are in the same basket; there is no difference between them.

AL-QABAS: Well, how do you envision an end to the Iraq-Iran war?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Saddam's downfall.

AL-QABAS: Does that not constitute interference in Iraq's internal affairs?

Al-Qadhdhafi: This is Iran's stand.

AL-QABAS: But this, of course, is unacceptable. Do you accept what Egypt says, for example, that the condition for establishing relations with Libya is Al-Qadhdhafi's downfall?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The fact is that this is a kind of protest against regimes. We call for toppling them by all means, including a cold war. But Iran reached the point of a hot war. If this is interference in internal affairs, this rule should govern us all.

AL-QABAS: This regards the political aspect of the conflict. Regarding the military aspect, it could lead to land occupation and to attempts to topple the regime.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Why not? If one side can protest against the regime of the other side and can topple this regime, why should he not do so? Iraqis and Iranians are able to wage a war but others are not able to.

AL-QABAS: Amid political and military conflicts among countries and regimes, however, we forget the role of the people. These people are in most cases powerless.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Let them remain so until they become powerful.

AL-QABAS: Do you not think that the indefinite continuation of the Iraq-Iran war will provide an opportunity for the great powers to intervene in the Gulf, at least under the pretext of protecting their interests?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes. This requires unity among the Gulf countries to fill the void.

AL-QABAS: Do you believe that the establishment of the GCC fulfills this requirement?

Al-Qadhdhafi: No. They are two different things. I have proposed to them that they transform the GCC into a federal state so that it can fill the void.

AL-QABAS: To whom did you make this proposal?

Al-Qadhdhafi: To the leaders of the Gulf countries. I told them

that transforming the GCC into a federal state would fill the void concerning any possible developments in the Gulf war and concerning possible U.S. intervention or intervention in the region by other great powers. A federal state can fill the void concerning any developments in the Gulf war.

AL-QABAS: Do you believe that the Gulf states' situation and the differences in their political systems will help to establish the federal state of which you speak?

Al-Qadhdhafi: This state could be governed by following the same theory I spoke of concerning the Arab union plan.

AL-QABAS: Brother leader, let us move to another issue — the Palestinian question. It is clear that you have strong reservations about a peaceful settlement plan through the Amman accord between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat. What is the possible Arab alternative to achieve a just solution to the tragedy of the Palestinian people?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Fighting from the river to the sea [not further specified]. There is no other solution.

AL-QABAS: How can there be fighting while Arab borders are closed to the Palestinian resistance?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The war can begin against the Arab borders and they can be opened by force.

AL-QABAS: You presently have good relations with the brothers in Syria. Why do you not persuade them to open their borders first to the Palestinian resistance?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The problem is between Palestine and Syria. There are occupied Syrian territories, and the Palestinians say that they do not want to fight to liberate the Golan Heights. In the same way there are justifications to be found by those who are unwilling to fight for liberation. [laughs]

AL-QABAS: Actually, brother leader, the PLO has a strong argument which states that the Syrian blow upon it is designed to achieve hegemony over independent Palestinian decision-making. In your view, is this true?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I beg your pardon. To make Palestinian decisionmaking what?

AL-QABAS: We mean hegemony over Palestinian decisionmaking. Let's say hegemony by Syria for instance.

Al-Qadhdhafi: No. Palestinian decisionmaking suffers from an intrinsic impotence. It is not Syria's fault. Right now the fault lies with the Palestinians themselves — from Yasir 'Arafat to any other. None of them are up to the standard of the cause; their makeup, the fronts, the leaders, and the organization suffer defects in content and form. I am waiting for the unknown to emerge to save the Palestinians. Neither the uprising nor anything else will save them.

AL-QABAS: But differences exist in the Palestinian resistance between Yasir 'Arafat's wing and the wing supported by Syria.

As an Arab leader, should you not play a role in this issue?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yasir 'Arafat has been a victim of a coup. How is it possible to reconcile with someone who has been the victim of a coup? This means that we should reconcile between the victim of a coup and those who carried it out (laughing). It means that we should reconcile between 'Abd al-Rahman 'Arif and the Ba'th Party, and reconcile between the Ba'th Party of Syria and Iraq, and between King Faruq and the Egyptian Government, and between Numayri and the 6 April Revolution in Sudan. Is it possible to reconcile the coup sides? 'Arafat was the victim of a coup and that is it!

AL-QABAS: Do you think that Yasir 'Arafat is finished?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I cannot say if he is finished in the field of struggle, but he is overseas and is making efforts. He has become semi-exiled, a person similar to Osman Sabbe of Eritrea.

AL-QABAS: During the Beirut siege, your stance was against the departure of the resistance from Beirut. Do you still believe that this stance was right? If the resistance had stayed in Beirut, would the situation be different?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Certainly, if the resistance had stayed in Beirut, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] would be a "hero" and the Israelis would be defeated. However, Abu 'Ammar's departure led him to this fate. When I cabled him and advised him not to go, he refused. We have seen steadfastness in southern Lebanon and how it led to the evacuation of the Israelis and before them the Americans, the French, and the Italians.

AL-QABAS: Brother leader, the committee for clearing the Arab atmosphere will visit Libya within the framework of its mission. What is your stance on the committee and the resolutions of the recent Casablanca summit?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We have a national problem, not a problem over borders. The Arabs should unite and liberate Palestine and work against the United States. Then there would be no problems. If we reconcile with them, no more hope will exist. We do not force anyone, but we have a national problem.

AL-QABAS: But the Arab leaders say that it is a duty to attend the meetings of the Arab summit in order to reach a minimum level of joint stances.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Fine, there is the ordinary summit conference before them — an ordinary summit, not an extraordinary summit. We will leave them to say all the things they say.

AL-QABAS: Are you optimistic about the upcoming ordinary summit conference?

Al-Qadhdhafi: No, I am not optimistic.

AL-QABAS: On what basis do you say that you are not optimistic?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The present Arab developments are bad.

AL-QABAS: Don't you think that these bad developments should be one of the motives to hold the Arab summit and ease this crisis?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The summit is not governed by current developments, but by other factors.

AL-QABAS: Brother leader, this has been a long working day for you and we have two questions left. I will go back to the issue of Iran, while brother 'Abd al-Karim has a question about Libyan-Tunisian relations and the situation inside Libya. The truth is, Iran is trying to involve Kuwait as a side in the dispute. This became obvious when Iran began seizing Kuwaiti ships and accusing Kuwait of opening its airspace to Iraq, of financing Iraq, and of other actions. Don't you think that this policy is serious and contributes to the expansion of war in the region?

Al-Qadhdhafi: In Iran, they talk about the expansion of the war, but they say they do not want to expand it, that the Arab countries entered the war against the Iranians. This is the logic of the Iranians who have made statements against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

AL-QABAS: The Iranian information media is launching a media campaign against Kuwait saying that Iraqi planes cross Kuwaiti airspace. How can the Iraqi planes reach Khark Island and hit it, while Iranian artillery cannot stop them?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not know. They are saying that the Iraqi planes take off from Kuwait.

AL-QABAS: This is not true. They cannot take off from Kuwait. Kuwait has denied this more than once.

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Iranians say that there is an Iraqi air base near Kuwaiti borders.

AL-QABAS: The south of Iraq is the north of Kuwait?

Al-Qadhdhafi: I do not know where the borders are. It means that this is Kuwait and this is Iraq and that there is an Iraqi base near the border being used by the Iraqi planes to raid Iran.

AL-QABAS: Let us talk about the recent crisis between Libya and Tunisia. It was noticed that the Tunisian voice was louder than the Libyan voice in this case. What exactly is the truth about the deportation of Tunisian laborers from Libya? Why did you decide to deport the Tunisian and Egyptian workers from Libya?

Al-Qadhdhafi: They are laborers who came from Arab and non-Arab countries to implement the 5-year plan which began in 1981 and concluded in 1985. All those countries knew that their laborers would return home this year. The truth is that the Tunisian Government knew this. It also knew that those laborers would be dispensed with. It was the Tunisians who asked for a few month's extension of the laborers' stay.

AL-QABAS: In that case what are the reasons for this clamor?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Tunisian regime is unable to solve its citizens' problems. It likes to send its citizens to France or Libya and

then put the blame on others. This is a known fact.

AL-QABAS: Kuwait played a role in this crisis. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad met with you before he left for Tunis. I believe Libya agreed to receive the technical committee. What happened in this regard?

Al-Qadhdhafi: The Tunisians refused. They could have come to an understanding with us on good terms. We are not defending Libya in this case. If Libya is the oppressor, then the issue cannot be solved this way. It was the Tunisian media that almost led to the use of force. What would you do when someone curses you and tries to hit you? Wouldn't you hit him?

AL-QABAS: Does this mean that the military option was expected at a certain time?

Al-Qadhdhafi: It was expected in the view of the Tunisian media. Sir, we are unfair and we have undermined the workers' rights. There are joint committees which are welcome to come and solve the problems with us. We are not defending the Libyans, because they might have been unfair with the Tunisians. This may happen, but I am sure that it happens very rarely. However, the media should not respond to the matter in this way. I will tell you one thing that you can publish. Wasila Bourguiba [Habib Bourguiba's wife] and some Tunisian ministers contacted us and asked us to escalate the media campaign. They asked us not to ease the media campaign.

AL-QABAS: Has Wasila Bourguiba asked for that?

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, together with some ministers. They said: Please do not stop the campaign and do not stop dismissing the workers.

AL-QABAS: What was your answer to that?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We didn't care about the issue. We have nothing to do with the local struggles there. However, they insisted that we escalate the campaign.

AL-QABAS: That is strange.

Al-Qadhdhafi: They say that this is a chance. They asked for a radio station to be used by the Tunisians to transmit to Tunisia. Thus, they asked for a radio broadcasting station that operates in the name of the voice of free Tunisia.

AL-QABAS: Strange.

Al-Qadhdhafi: Yes, this is Bourguiba's method.

AL-QABAS: How do you evaluate the visit paid by Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid to Tunisia following this problem?

Al-Qadhdhafi: We have done nothing to prompt them to unite against us. Let them unite and come to occupy our country. We are ready to withdraw our Army without defeat. We will withdraw our Army and say that they have defeated us.

AL-QABAS: You were quoted recently as saying that if a

confrontation between you and Egypt occurs, Egypt will not be able to stand up to Libya. Is this true?

Al-Qadhdhafi: If Egypt can stand up to the Israelis, it will stand up to Libya.

AL-QABAS: But, late President al-Sadat announced at Alexandria University in 1977 that he gave Al-Qadhdhafi a lesson he will never forget.

Al-Qadhdhafi: You know the Egyptians. Cleopatra, who was defeated in a war, escaped to Egypt and said that she had crushed the enemy and achieved victory. The Egyptians held festivities for her. This is an old story in Egypt. Ramses II obliterated all victories belonging to Ramses I and attributed them to himself.

AL-QABAS: We thank you for this interview, which we hope will not be our last with you. We still have many questions, but you must have much work to do. However, we thank you for giving me and my colleague 'Abd al-Karim the opportunity to hold an open dialogue with you. We also thank you for enabling us to differ with you in our views and for allowing us to have this quiet dialogue.

Al-Qadhdhafi: We welcome you in Libya. We are proud of the media in the Gulf, because it represents a sign of civilization. I think you have noticed that the Libyan media carries Gulf achievements in detail. In the past the newspapers and magazines carried only Egyptian works and there were only Egyptian plays and videotapes. We are happy for this Gulf advance. I am glad for the upturn taking place in the Gulf.

JANA Says Reports of Troop Movements Exaggerated *LD241057 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0800 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Text] New York, 24 Sep (JANA) — The American paper *THE NEW YORK TIMES* has given the lie to reports circulated by the Tunisian information organs alleging that Libyan forces are deployed along the artificial border zone between the Jamahiriya and Tunisia. In an article the paper says that it has now become a fact that reports published about movements by Libyan forces on the Libyan-Tunisian border are exaggerated. The paper cited Western diplomats denying such reports and saying that the measures taken on Libyan territory are quite normal.

JANA on Succession Struggle Over Bourguiba *LD241611 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Sep 85*

[Text] Kuwait, 24 Sep (JANA) — KUNA has attributed an informed Tunisian source as having said that the Tunisian Army today has been placed on extreme alert. This measure reflects the intensification of the political struggle between the Tunisian factions over the succession of President Habib Bourguiba, who since yesterday has been in the throes of death after his health deteriorated.

It is worth mentioning that the Tunisian National Defense Minister admitted the day before yesterday that there are deep disputes between the two organizations over Bourguiba's succes-

sor.

Agricultural Protocol Signed With USSR

LD241730 Tripoli JANA in English 1700 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Tripoli, Muharram 8, Sept. 24, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — At noon today in Tripoli, the signing of the protocol of the 8th session of the agricultural sub-committee of the Libyan Arab-Soviet Joint Committee. [sentence as received]

This protocol included the co-operation in the field of planning land complement, grazing land organisation and agrarian mapping Jamahiriyah apart from water transference from the south to the coast and the training of the national Libyan Arab elements on various agricultural fields in the Soviet Union, co-operation in the field of animal raising and the fight of soil sliding. [sentence as received]

The protocol was signed by the secretary of the agricultural committee in the western region while Mr Vladimir Koslov the deputy minister of agriculture in the Soviet Union signed it on the Soviet side.

MOROCCO

Spanish Foreign Minister Cited on Vessel Attacks

LD241316 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The Spanish foreign minister has announced that his country does not now and will never recognize the co-called Saharan Republic. He explained that this fictitious republic, which Spain does not consider to be a state, does not have a mission in Spain. He said that the Spanish Government considers the action against two Spanish ships in southern Moroccan waters to be a terrorist attack.

SUDAN

TMC Expresses Discontent Over Riots

JN241830 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 24 (SUNA) — The Transitional Military Council [TMC] held here today its regular meeting under the chairmanship of TMC President General Siwar al-Dhahab who informed the Council of his meetings during the last week. Member and official spokesman of TMC Naval Gen. Yusuf Husayn Ahmad stated that the Council had listened to a report from the security committee on the security situation in the country. The Council then listened to a report presented by the political committee dealing with its meetings last week, the spokesman added.

Brigadier Yusuf stated that the Council [word indistinct] Premier Dr. al-Jazuli's visit today-morning to the 7th Armored Regiment of Al-Shajarah. This visit has had a tremendous effect of raising the spirit of soliders, the official spokesman elaborated. The

TMC expressed its discontent on the last riots which coincided with last Saturday's anti-Garang march.

Party Leader Opposes Military Escalation

JN221554 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Sep (SUNA) — (Peter Nyute), leader of the Sudanese African National Congress, has affirmed that the Congress is against military escalation by John Garang or the Army.

This came in a statement to the SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY. He also affirmed that the cease-fire is the real beginning of dialogue and that it can be reached through a special, separate agreement to pave the way for a comprehensive dialogue.

On Prime Minister Dr Al-Jazuli Da'Allah's statement about John Garang's message, he pointed out that the statement contains positive elements — its acceptance of dialogue as a path toward solutions, its belief in and emphasis on Sudan's unity, and its demand for a new ruling regime to be attained through a national conference.

TUNESIA

Airspace Violation By Libyan Planes Protested

LD242346 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] After four Libyan Mirage aircraft violated Tunisian airspace on 23 September 1985 in the Ramada area, the Libyan high commissioner to Tunisia was immediately summoned yesterday to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was handed a protest memorandum in which the Tunisian Government strongly protests such actions and puts the full responsibility of all the grave consequences that could result from this on the shoulders of the Libyan authorities.

Armed Forces Said Ready for Possible Libyan Attack

LD241600 Kuwait KUNA in English 1059 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Tunis, Sept 24 (KUNA) — The Tunisian Government is considering lodging an urgent complaint with the Security Council against "continued Libyan military aircraft violation of Tunisian airspace in a provocative manner," well informed Tunisian source told KUNA tuesday. The source, who requested anonymity, added that the "Tunisian Army is currently fully alert to resist any possible Libyan military attack against Tunisian territory."

The official tunisian news agency, TAP, had reported last night that four Libyan Mirage jets had violated the Tunisian airspace and flew over the Ramada Airforce Base earlier Monday. The agency added that Tunisian military aircraft immediately took off from the said base while "The Libyan planes returned to their airspace."

Tunis had repeatedly accused Tripoli of violating its airspace ever since the deterioration of their bilateral relations since August following the Libyan expulsion of thousands of Tunisian workers. A reliable Tunisian source had told KUNA yesterday that Tunisian Minister of Administrative Reforms El-Mezri Chekir will head for Saudi Arabia within the upcoming two days at the

onset of a tour that will further include Qatar, Oman and Bahrain. He added that shuqair will convey messages on the Tunisian-Libyan crisis from President Al-habib Bourguiba to leaders of these countries .

ETHIOPIA

EPLF Announces Suspension of Negotiations*LD231158 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic**0950 GMT 23 Sep 85*

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Sep (KUNA) — The Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) has announced the suspension of secret negotiations that have been taking place with the Ethiopian regime since September 1982, accusing the Addis Ababa government of resorting to diplomatic tricks to thwart any agreement for a peaceful settlement of the Eritrean question.

A communique from the front, handed to KUNA here today, says the front's negotiators and the Ethiopian regime have held 10 preliminary meetings to pave the way for direct public peace negotiations. The communique says that during these meetings, the last of which was in April, the two sides agreed that each of them would present a working paper on the Eritrean issue, and in light of this the front had offered its own plan for a referendum, but the representatives of the Ethiopian side had not presented anything.

The front's plan is based on the following principles:

1. The first requirement of the Eritrean people and of the people's front is a peaceful settlement of the Eritrean problem.
2. A peaceful solution to the problem of the Eritrean people is not [words indistinct] the people's front on behalf of the Eritrean people, but it must be defined by the voice of the Eritrean people themselves.
3. The Eritrean question has historical and economic origins, and the front has emerged in order to ensure human and democratic rights as well as national sovereignty. It is a valid issue and its solution can come about only on the basis of the right of people to self-determination, and through the United Nations which, from the start, bears responsibility for the self-determination of the Eritrean people.
4. Because a peaceful settlement requires willingness from the two sides to the conflict, the Ethiopian Government must accept the policy of peace and halt the policy of a military settlement which is the main cause of the continuation of this bloody clash.
5. Because the main cause of the clash between Eritrea and Ethiopia is the UN resolution of 1950 on Eritrea, and because this resolution has become the main cause of the war and the lack of security and stability in this region, the responsibility for a solution to this question falls on the shoulders of the international community.
6. Because a peaceful settlement is an objective in itself, it must not be an instrument of maneuvering and for achieving political gains which are resorted to in the event of weakness in battle, and abandoned whenever there is a sense of strength.
7. A peaceful settlement must not be a means of achieving national, regional, or international gains for foreign powers.

The front reiterated its desire for peace and its eagerness to give momentum to the talks on the basis of the 1980 referendum plan. The front also called on all the parties concerned with a peaceful settlement of the Eritrean issue to show more of their concern.

The front has made the successful outcome of the peace talks conditional on the participation of a third party as a neutral observer enjoying the confidence of both sides. This third party must not try to impose its view on the two sides or on either of them.

The front requires that the contents of the talks be kept secret and the progress of the talks must be officially made public so that peace efforts are not exploited for political or diplomatic ends.

The first meeting between the Addis Ababa government and the people's front took place in 1977 in Berlin; however, the two sides did not reach any agreement. Subsequent preliminary meetings were held in several European capitals. The announcement on the suspension of negotiations came at a time when the president of the Ethiopian regime is paying a visit to the PDRY and it is thought that the Eritrean issue will be at the center of his talks with President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

EPLF Leader Comments*MB231907 London BBC World Service in English**1615 GMT 23 Sep 85*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There was a fresh twist today in the year's old peace and war saga involving the Ethiopian Government and the Eritrean guerrillas. On the war front, last month Ethiopian troops recaptured the towns of Barentu and Teseney, held by guerrillas of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, the EPLF. And on the peace front, after months and months of denials by the government and the guerrillas, in the face of considerable speculation, the EPLF today gave details of contacts they've been having with government representatives. Robin White asked (Amdy Bahandit) of the EPLF's Central Committee why they decided to make these revelations now.

[Begin recording] [(Bahandit)] In fact, there have been a series of 10 discussions starting from September 1982 until April 1985. Now, we are issuing this statement because we believe that the preliminary meetings have exhausted the points we could raise, and they have run out of steam.

[White] You mean, that the negotiations got nowhere?

[(Bahandit)] The preliminary meetings were designed to pave the way for peace negotiations, but because of intransigence of the Ethiopian military regime, they cannot go further. They have reached a deadlock.

[White] Could you say at what level these meetings were held?

[[Bahandit]] They were held at the authoritative levels of the Ethiopian Government's leadership and also our front's leadership.

[White] What do you mean, authoritative levels?

[[Bahandit]] Members of the leadership.

[White] Do you mean ministers in the Ethiopian Government?

[[Bahandit]] Yes.

[White] Now, why was it decided initially to keep these meetings secret?

[[Bahandit]] Because the Ethiopians insisted on their secrecy.

[White] Where in fact were most of the meetings held? Were they held in Africa, or Europe, or America, or where were they held?

[[Bahandit]] No, they were held in the various European cities of mutual convenience.

[White] Why, in fact, did the talks break down? Over what issue?

[[Bahandit]] Both sides agreed to present work papers which would spell out the opinions of the two sides on the peaceful resolution of the Eritrean question. The EPLF put forward its proposal for an internationally supervised referendum which would show the practical bases for a peaceful resolution of the Eritrean question, while the Ethiopian side presented work papers with varying (?content) at various meetings, which indicated lack of seriousness on their side.

[White] But why do you say that? Why do you think they were not serious?

[[Bahandit]] Because at different meetings they were presenting different things with different (?contents), all the time saying that these are not (?their) real positions and that the next time they will come with their real position and that never materialized.

[White] Now, what's going to happen now? Do you expect there to be even more heavy fighting from now on?

[[Bahandit]] Of course, in the face of the stubborn refusal of the Ethiopian regime to seek a negotiated settlement of the Eritrean war, the only prospect is for more intensified fighting.

[White] Now, you have in fact suffered a number of setbacks recently: the loss of Barentu and the loss of Teseney. Are you in fact in the position to carry on fighting?

[[Bahandit]] This may appear as a setback to people who superficially look at the situation or who observe the situation in Eritrea from very far. But in reality, we are, today, militarily speaking, stronger than before the battle for Barentu.

[White] How can you argue that?

[[Bahandit]] I can give you some concrete instances. During the battle for Barentu and the battle that followed around Barentu and on the (Nassa) front, we inflicted heavy losses on the Ethiopian Army. A total of 11,150 Ethiopian troops have been put out of action.

[White] What about your own losses?

[[Bahandit]] On our side, the losses are relatively low. I can tell you, for instance, against the total loss of 32 Ethiopian tanks, we lost 4 tanks.

[White] What about men dying? What about your own men dying?

[[Bahandit]] I can assure you that the ratio of Ethiopian to Eritrean losses in terms of the men are less than 15 to 1.

[White] Now you are just back in fact from the front. Surely your soldiers must be a bit demoralized, having lost two towns, the only two you hold.

[[Bahandit]] Not at all. Until the moment we decided to withdraw from Barentu and the surrounding area, the fighting was going in favor of our army, and once the decision to withdraw was made, the withdrawal was very organized and orderly, and all our people, all the artillery, heavy guns, and all our property were withdrawn intact. In fact, it was a victory for us, because instead of being forced to defend a terrain much more favorable to the Ethiopians, being open plain, we withdrew in order to attack the Ethiopians in the first place to consolidate and to preserve our forces and attack them at places and at a time of our own choice.

[White] So are you in fact yourselves planning a new offensive?

[[Bahandit]] What I can assure you is that future military developments would verify what I've just told you. [End recording]

KENYA

Ugandan Delegation Arrives for Peace Talks

LD241925 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The Uganda Government delegation to the peace talks has arrived in Nairobi. The talks had been adjourned since 7 September to give time to the government delegation to make consultations. Sources in Nairobi have confirmed that the Kenyan leader, President Daniel Arap Moi, is to preside over the talks between the Uganda Government and the National Resistance Army.

NRA Leader Absent

EA251430 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1400 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] The Uganda delegation to the peace talks arrived in Nairobi this morning. The delegation is headed by the vice chairman of the Military Council and minister of defense, Colo-

nel Toko. The chairman of the peace talks, His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, opened the talks.

It is reported that Mr Yoweri Museveni, leader of the NRA, [National Resistance Army] did not attend the opening ceremony.

Meanwhile, government wishes to inform Ugandans that the NRA early this afternoon and on the eve of the peace talks mounted an attack on Masaka Township which was repulsed. It is understood that during this attack a number of civilians lost their lives. The situation is now under control.

Government once again reiterated its declared conviction that the best solution to Uganda's problems is through the peace process and is doing everything possible to ensure that the peace talks succeed despite repeated violations of the cease-fire by the NRA.

Meanwhile, the archbishop of Kampala, Cardinal Nsubuga, has returned from Nairobi, where he had gone to appeal to the leaders of the NRA to embrace peace and negotiate through the spirit of peace and faith.

SOMALIA

Radio Halkan: DFSS Claims Army Casualties
EA210950 (Clandestine) Radio Halkan in Somali
to Somalia 1700 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] Units from the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces yesterday morning attacked the loyalist troops of General Siad Barre killing 73 soldiers and wounding 95 others. Reports from the headquarters of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the DFSS at Galdogob, say that yesterday morning at 0900, DFSS units attacked the 11th Brigade of the 21st Division of the forces, which is the enemy of the people. Reports add that in addition to the casualties, during the attack the DFSS fighters destroyed one TM Fiat vehicle used for transporting arms and food. The vehicle's number is Forces 16982.

The report adds that from yesterday morning until late afternoon, the two sides were exchanging artillery fire at Dabad village, in Abud Waaq, Ghel Gudut, central Somalia. At the same time the DFSS fighters' heavy artillery continued pounding the militia forces of the regime in their trenches at the battlefield in Balamballe and Galdogob. The DFSS bombers destroyed the defense lines of the regime in the area.

TANZANIA

Joint Communique Praises Arap Moi, Nyerere Efforts
EA241600 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1300 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and President Daniel Arap Moi have been praised for their tireless efforts in

promoting good-neighborliness, development, and welfare of the people in the two countries and the East African region as a whole. The praise is contained in a joint communique issued yesterday following a 5-day visit to Tanzania by a minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Justus Ole Tipis, at the invitation of Tanzania's minister for home affairs, Mr Salimin Amour.

The communique noted that previous meetings between the officials in the two countries resulted in increased understanding and cooperation in several spheres. These include free movement across the border, facilitating border trade, apprehending of criminals, and considerable reduction in cattle rustling and poaching.

The communique further expressed satisfaction with the continued efforts by officials from both countries in implementing previous recommendations and finding new areas of cooperation. It urged the officials to sustain these efforts through regular meetings and consultations for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries.

It was agreed that the next meeting be held in Kenya at a later date to be mutually agreed upon.

During his 5-day visit, Mr Tipis, who headed a high-powered Kenyan delegation, also met and held discussions with President Julius Nyerere, Tanzania's vice-president, Mr Ali Hassan Mwinyi; and the ruling party secretary general, Mr Rashidi Kawawa.

UGANDA

Rebels 'Repulsed' 20 Km West of Kampala
EA241945 Dar Es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili
1900 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Kampala — Reports from Kampala say that fighting has taken place between Ugandan Government forces and the rebel movement, the NRA [National Resistance Army]. The fighting took place this morning, 20 km west of Kampala. The reports say that the rebel forces attacked government forces barracks at (?Bukasa), but were later repulsed.

Earlier reports said that the rebel forces had taken over Lukaya Town in southwestern Uganda.

The fighting is taking place at a time when preparations are under way for peace talks in Nairobi between the Ugandan Military Council and the rebel forces.

NRA Guerrillas Reportedly Nearing Kampala
EA251214 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English
25 Sep 85 p 1

[Excerpts] Kampala, 24 Sep As the Uganda peace talks scheduled to resume in Nairobi today failed to materialise, reports here suggested that guerrillas of the National Resistance Movement (NRM) might be preparing to enter Kampala.

The National Resistance Army (NRA) — the NRM's military wing — launched lightning attacks on several government Army positions — most of them less than 10 miles away from the Capital — this morning. They attacked government Army detachments, for instance, at Bukasa, eight miles west of here, and at nearby Wakiso, at 4 a.m. this morning, residents fleeing into the city centre said.

There was fierce fight, and a number of tired-looking government troops were seen early today withdrawing from Wakiso and Bukasa via the Nansana trading centre and the suburb of Kasubi. Some came on foot but were later picked up by two Army trucks and two jeeps. Unconfirmed reports suggested that the guerrillas might be preparing an onslaught onto the city proper.

Many people have moved from areas around Nansana to seek refuge with relatives elsewhere. Meanwhile, the government delegation which, according to a Radio Uganda report on Monday night, was to leave for Nairobi for the peace talks today, has not left.

A secretary to one of the senior ministers who have attended the previous two sessions told me this afternoon that the delegation was to have left today but had definitely not done so. Sources suggested later the delay could have been caused by a long Cabinet meeting throughout the day. Usually, [as published] informed sources said, General Tito Okello, the Military Council chairman and the head of state, could have been briefing his ministers on his Nairobi visit on Monday.

NRA officials, who declined to be named, told the *NATION* in Nairobi tonight that its forces had taken a big Army base at Mityana on the Mubende/Fport Portal road this morning and that its fighters had blocked the Kampala-Hoima road and the Masindi/Guru road, six miles from Kampala.

Asked about the whereabouts of the NRA leader, Mr Yoweri Museveni, the official said Mr Museveni was conducting the fighting but declined to say from what point. We will go on with our programme to defeat the enemy. If they don't take us seriously, we shall remove them by force, the official vowed.

But was Mr Museveni ready to attend the talks should they resume at short notice? You never know, he might turn up for the talks tomorrow... he snapped.

The official said the NRA forces were today battling to take Masaka town which they sealed off from Kampala a week ago. They had placed a roadblock about 50 miles from Kampala.

In another development, reports from the so-called Luwero Triangle reported continued fighting between the government forces and the NRA, our Kampala correspondent reports.

Daily Reports Link-Up of Guerrilla Armies
EA251215 Nairobi The *STANDARD* in English
25 Sep 85 p 1

["NRA Move on Masaka" by *STANDARD* reporter]

[Excerpts] The NRA [National Resistance Army] guerrillas have been joined by another guerrilla army which fought against the ousted Milton Obote regime. The group, Federal Democratic Movement of Uganda (FEDEMU) is advancing towards Uganda's third biggest town of Masaka, according to a local journalist contacted by phone in Masaka, reports *Standard* correspondent in Kampala.

The two forces have now reached Kake village, only five miles from Masaka on the main road to Kampala. The reports said it was now a matter of time before the provincial town falls to the guerrillas.

The FEDEMU commander in the area whose leader, Captain George Nkwanga, is a member of the ruling Military Council, told journalists at the front line that his forces had decided to join the NRA in the battle to capture Masaka, but could not give reasons for the decision.

In another development, a Uganda Railways Corporation passenger train was attacked by a guerrilla force of the Uganda freedom movement at Buikwe station, 30 miles east of Kampala. It was reported a 10-year-old child was killed in the raid. The guerrillas disarmed government troops travelling on train, and disappeared with the arms.

Muslims Urged to Refrain From 'Provocative Action'
EA231959 Kampala Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The minister of internal affairs, Mr Paulo Kawanga Ssemogerere, has appealed to the leaders and followers of Islam in Uganda to refrain from any provocative action which could lead to a breach of the peace. The appeal followed an ugly incident at the Uganda Muslim Supreme Council headquarters which threatened to end in violence and compelled the police to take some action.

In a statement issued this afternoon, Mr Ssemogerere cautioned the people of Uganda against taking the law in one's hand. He said anyone who feels aggrieved has a constitutional right to take up the matter with the court. He appealed to Muslim leaders to bear in mind that at this time of their history, the people of Uganda need unity more than ever before. Muslims, therefore, he added, should work and live peacefully with one another like members of other faiths in the country.

GABON**Bongo Returns From Private Visit to Morocco***AB230855 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French**0630 GMT 23 Sep 85*

[Text] President Omar Bongo returned to Libreville yesterday afternoon. The Gabonese head of state is back in his country following a 3-week private visit to Morocco, during which he held a series of talks with King Hassan II and various Moroccan businessmen. Let us listen to Omar Bongo speaking about his consultations.

[Begin recording] On the eve of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, we discussed various burning issues, namely those of Sahara, Namibia, Chad, and Angola. Our position is no different from that of the Moroccan sovereign. We also discussed bilateral issues.

On his return from Morocco, the minister of commerce and consumption gave us a very enlightening report. As I examine the fundamental problem, I very often use the example of women's purses which are sold here under the Jourdan trademark; they are all made in Morocco. And due to the triangular trade system, they first go to France, from there they are sent here, and

then we buy them at high prices. However, if we bought them at their place of origin, we would pay less expensive prices. The oranges that you see (?grown in France) are grown in Morocco. This situation particularly interests me. In examining this situation, I would like to tell the ministers, and in particular, the minister of commerce, that we should employ this spirit of competition and rivalry as our weapon since we have always demonstrated a competitive spirit in the field of trade and have also excluded monopolies from our system of government. [End recording]

ZAIRE**PRC Attache Takes Part in Shaba Exercise***AB230659 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1440 GMT 22 Sep 85*

[Text] Kinshasa, 21 Sep (AZAP) — Huang Youkui, military attache at the Chinese Embassy in Zaire, returned to Kinshasa on Friday from Moba (Shaba) where he took part in the 5-day Zairian military exercise code-named "Silisa," organized by the General Staff of the Zairian Armed Forces. The Chinese military attache said he was very impressed by the discipline and courage of Zairian troops on the battlefield.

BURKINA FASO

CDR Secretary General Departs for Albania
AB231626 Ouagadougou Domestic Service In French
 1300 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Comrade Pierre Ouedraogo, national secretary general of the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], left Ouagadougou for Tirana, Albania at the head of a three-man delegation. The CDR national secretary general is responding to an invitation by the Albanian Union of Working Youth, which is the youth organization of the Albanian Workers Party.

This official visit, which follows the visit to Burkina last July by a delegation from the Albanian Union of Working Youth, which had initially come to participate in the first national conference of students, shows the excellent political relations between the states of Burkina Faso and Albania. Since the advent of the democratic and popular revolution in our country, the People's Socialist Republic of Albania has continued to give support to our people in their struggle to build a new society. Thus diplomatic relations were quickly and effectively established between the two countries, followed by friendly visits by Albanian leaders to our country and Burkinabe leaders to Albania.

The visit by the comrade national secretary general of the CDR will undoubtedly be used to strengthen the already solid relations.

GHANA

Rawlings Returns From Ethiopia, PRC Tour
AB211449 Accra Domestic Service In English
 1300 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] The chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, returned home a short while ago after a 2-nation tour of Ethiopia and China. While in Ethiopia, Chairman Rawlings took part in activities marking the anniversary of the Ethiopian revolution. In Beijing he held discussions with the Chinese president, Zhao Ziyang, on bilateral and economic matters.

Chairman Rawlings was met at the airport by Alhaji Mahama Idrissu and Captain Kojo Tsikata, both members of the PNDC. Also present were secretaries of state and members of the diplomatic corps. The leader of the revolution said he was very impressed by the achievements of the peoples of both Ethiopia and China. He said discussions with government officials of both countries covered a wide range of subjects. He announced that China is to offer Ghana a substantial loan to undertake a number of development projects.

Agreements Signed

AB191915 Accra Domestic Service In English
 1800 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Text] Ghana and the People's Republic of China have concluded two agreements and a memorandum of understanding in pursu-

ance of further economic cooperation between them. The coordinator, revenue commissioners, investigations and tribunals, Mr Kwamina Ahwoi, signed for Ghana, while the vice minister for foreign economic relations and trade, Mr Lu Xuejian, signed for China. The trade agreement is essentially a renewal of a 1984-85 agreement under which Ghana is to supply China with 2,000 metric tons of cocoa in exchange for an equivalent amount of Chinese goods.

The second agreement provides for an approximately \$15 million Chinese loan to Ghana, to be utilized over 5 years, with a grace period of 5 years, and repayment spread over 10 years. The memorandum of understanding provides for the utilization of the balance of a \$15 million loan granted to Ghana in 1961 for the construction of an irrigation project at (Ninbuam) near Konongo, along the lines of the Afife Project. It is also to provide for the study and construction of a biogas project as part of Ghana's renewal of energy resources program.

GDR to Build, Equip Technical Centers
AB210950 Accra Domestic Service In English
 0700 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] German Democratic Republic has offered to build and equip technical and vocational centers in the country. It will also assist in the training of Ghanaian technical instructors to mind the centers. This was disclosed to newsmen at the Kotoka International Airport by the under secretary for education, (Walter Blagay), the leader of the 5-member government delegation to the just-ended Leipzig International Fair.

According to Mr (Blagay), the delegation also negotiated with the GDR for the supply of science, mathematics, technical, and vocational equipment for Ghana. He said the GDR has eliminated waste by linking its technical and vocational education to industry. No one therefore comes out of school and stays idle. The tourist fair which depicted technological advancement of the GDR attracted participants from Eastern and Western industrialized countries as well as those of the Third World in general.

Meanwhile, a 3-member delegation from the GDR which was in the country to participate in the celebration marking the 15th anniversary of Ghana-GDR Friendship Association, has returned home. Speaking to newsmen before its departure, the leader of the delegation, Mr Bruno Kinsla, said there is great conformity on ideas on common interest by which Ghana and the GDR can adopt in safeguarding peace. It is therefore imperative that the two countries cooperate for the interchange of ideas and experiences. On South Africa, Mr Kinsla described political support as the greatest weapon the United Nations and other international organizations can offer to the Frontline States to force the racist regime to grant independence to the indigenous people of South Africa. He said the avoidance of political as well as armed struggle in South Africa depends on how much the Botha regime responds to international opinion. According to Mr Kinsla, the intensification of economic and political sanctions against that regime of late is a manifestation of how unpopular apartheid has become. He gave the assurance that the GDR will continue moral and material support to the African National Congress.

Japan Gives Grant To Upgrade Radio, TV
AB201758 Accra Domestic Service in English
 1800 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] An agreement under which the Japanese Government is to grant \$3.6 million to Ghana for the rehabilitation of the Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, GBC, radio and television was signed in Accra today. The secretary for the interior, Mr Kofi Djin, and the Japanese ambassador in Ghana, Mr Kazuaki Arichi, signed the agreement on behalf of their countries. This is the third grant which has been given by Japan this year to be used to improve the technical standard of radio and television. Speaking at the ceremony, Mr Djin, who is acting foreign secretary, said the grant is yet another demonstration of the continued interest of Japan in the cultural and economic development of Ghana. He observed that Ghana is a major beneficiary of Japanese aid in Africa, and thanked the Japanese Government for the concrete evidence it has given, and its continued support for the development of the country.

The secretary said the role of broadcasting in social change, especially in Ghana, cannot be over-emphasized, and noted that the GBC in its 50 years of existence, has played an important role in the society by informing, educating, and mobilizing the people for progress and development.

Replying, Mr Arichi hoped the agreement would contribute to the accomplishment of the whole project, to enable the GBC to enjoy more efficient and comprehensive broadcasting.

Work on the new GBC radio transmitters was completed in May this year with Japanese assistance, and it is expected that the Northern Microwave Project which is also being financed by the Japanese Government, will soon be completed. The director general of the GBC, Mr Fiifi Hessey, said the equipment for the first agreement are expected in the country sometime next month, and the installation will be completed early next year. He said those under the second agreement will be delivered by November this year.

15-Year Loan Agreement Signed With France
AB231604 Accra Domestic Service in English
 1300 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Ghana today signed an agreement with the French financial institution, Caisse Centrale de Cooperation Economique, for a loan of Fr100 million. The money will be used to develop the industrial, transport, electrical, and telecommunications sectors of the economy. The period of credit is over 15 years with a grace period of 5 years.

The secretary for finance and economic planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway, who signed Ghana's part of the agreement, commended the French firm for bringing the agreement into reality. He said the loan falls in line with conditions under the 1985 budget. The director of the firm, Mr Olivier (Bognon), said by the agreement, France has demonstrated its commitment to the development of Ghana and to the economic recovery program. He hoped the signing of the agreement would enhance the close relations between Ghana and France.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Joint Commission on Cooperation Meets in Bissau
AB241049 Paris AFP in French 0742 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Bissau, 24 Sep (AFP) — The third session of the Guinea-Conakry and Guinea-Bissau joint commission for cooperation began its deliberations on Monday in Bissau under the chairmanship of Captain Jean Traore, the Guinean minister of planning, and Julio Samedo, the Guinea-Bissau minister of foreign affairs.

The two delegations will strive to reactivate bilateral cooperation in the fields of commerce, health, fishery, tourism, research, and sports, according to an official source. This cooperation has been frozen since 1980, following the border conflict between the two countries which was settled this year.

In the speeches made by the two heads of delegations, they reaffirmed the need to strengthen relations between the two Guineas and to make it an example to be emulated by other states of the subregion.

IVORY COAST

Gabon's Bongo Arrives for Talks 21-22 Sep
AB231945 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
 1245 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Gabonese head of state Omar Bongo, who arrived in Yamoussoukro yesterday, is due to leave this afternoon for his country. As he told the press yesterday, he came to draw inspiration from President Houphouet-Boigny's wisdom. This morning, the two heads of state held another round of private talks. They held private talks yesterday evening prior to their discussions at a private dinner given by the head of state. For the moment, no details of the subject of their talks have leaked out, according to Ouattara Gnonzie, our correspondent reporting from Yamoussoukro.

[Begin recording] Nobody knows exactly what they have discussed, but, for various reasons, it cannot be ruled out that the essential part of their conversation concerns the major political and economic questions that currently preoccupy the whole of the African Continent. The first reason is that the long-standing relations between Ivory Coast and Gabon are excellent. Cooperation between the two countries is good; therefore, there is an exemplary friendship, and relations between Yamoussoukro and Libreville are without any problems. The second reason is suggested by the statement made yesterday evening by President Bongo on his arrival here. The Gabonese head of state, who might leave for New York very soon to participate in the activities marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, came to discuss with President Houphouet-Boigny certain major world issues that might come up for discussion at the Manhattan glass house. [End recording]

LIBERIA

LAP Reacts to Minister's Statement on Sirleaf
AB231852 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
 1710 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The Liberian Action Party, LAP, has given its reaction to the statement made last week by Justice Minister Jenkins Scott that Mrs Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf will not be allowed to take part in the forthcoming general elections. According to the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, the chairman of LAP, Counselor Tuan Wreh, has said that any action by the justice minister to have Mrs Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf's name removed from the list of candidates will be challenged by the party before the highest court of the land. The LAP chairman made the statement yesterday during the press conference at the LAP headquarters in Sinkor.

SECOM Head Calls Minister's Remarks 'Unfortunate'
AB241008 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
 0655 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The chairman of the Special Election Commission [SECOM], Ambassador Emmett Harmon, says while the issue of party representatives at the counting of ballots at the end of the elections was under consideration, it was unfortunate that the minister of justice, Mr Jenkins Scott, decided without any authority or consultation to give an opinion on SECOM's laws.

Speaking at a news conference held at SECOM's Headquarters yesterday, Chairman Harmon said the recent opinion on the part of Justice Minister Scott has created not only a major conflict of interpretation but resulted in headlines in the *MIRROR* published on Sunday and Saturday which read: *SECOM Accepts Parties' Demand and LAP [Liberian Action Party] Commends Jenkins Scott*. Mr Harmon informed the press that at the beginning of the meeting with representatives from the four political parties, SECOM was requested to exclude the press, which request was granted. He, however, said it was agreed that at the end of the second meeting, no press release would be made either by SECOM or the parties involved. Only SECOM had an opportunity to discuss this matter and come out with a position. SECOM said it was therefore surprising that LAP, which was one of the spokesmen, would undertake not only to commend the justice minister but to also suggest that the matter was considered closed, which was a breach of faith on its part.

MALI

Traore Address to Nation Marks Independence
AB221203 Bamako Domestic Service in French
 2000 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Address to the nation by Head of State Moussa Traore in Bamako on 21 September on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of independence -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow Malians: It is with particular joy and emotion

that I am speaking to you on the occasion of the celebration of our country's independence anniversary. As a matter of fact, our country, which has a rich and glorious history, achieved its independence 25 years ago. The celebration of Mali's independence anniversary also provides an opportunity for me to reflect thoroughly on the political, economic, and social situation of the country, and to share with you my hopes and ambitions for the future of Mali.

The year 1985 can be considered an eventful year for the Malian People's Democratic Union [UDPM]. The most important events are undoubtedly the holding of the second ordinary congress, the presidential and legislative elections, as well as the upcoming municipal elections. The various meetings between militants and party officials, the exceptional success of the congress, and the creation of a party school are, among other things, the indices of the great capability of the party to mobilize and sensitize its organs.

The UDPM is following the preparations of the leadership and the congress of the National Union of Mali Workers [UNTM] with great interest. We are convinced that these meetings will result in resolutions that will enable workers to overcome the current challenges. The UNTM has a very important role to play in the implementation of the reorganization program for public corporations.

Fellow Malians, over 60 percent of the 1981-85 5-year plan has been implemented in spite of the adverse economic situation. The plan has been the framework of the government's action in the economic and social fields. Concerning this, in the financial sector, the structural adjustment program has been pursued, especially in designing rehabilitation projects for state enterprises and in promoting rural development operations. The drought and the important resultant shortfall in food production have brought about an imbalance in the budget and aggravated the financial difficulties of the public corporations. In this regard, and concurrently with the low level of tax revenues, industrial production has been practically stagnant. This situation necessitates the speedy implementation of financial recovery measures both for the state and enterprises.

Regarding public corporations, the government will experiment with new reforms in their structures and management. Such reforms are now being applied to the sugar complex and the Malian Railroad Corporation. Concerning the financial sector, the regions will be asked to accelerate their efforts to reduce their budget deficits. Furthermore, in financing our development, priority will now be given to projects which promote our food strategy, those which are aimed at equipping the regions affected by massive exodus, and projects generating high employment in order to make maximum use of the available labor force. Lastly, the monetary policy will continue to be selective and will favor productive investments.

Fellow Malians, the need for economic readjustment and the present financial difficulties cannot deter us from striving for continued development and safeguarding the future.

Our efforts to promote the well-being of the nation and the development of our country were very much hindered by two long

periods of drought in 1970 and in 1980. But now, we hope that if the (?rain continues), we will reap the deserved fruit of our painstaking efforts this year.

Fellow Malians, no lasting achievement can be made in our country without a consistent struggle against desert encroachment. Important measures to protect the environment, the struggle against bush fires, the introduction of improved hearths with the active assistance of the National Union of Malian Women, the reforestation campaign in rural and urban areas, and the preservation of the vast forests were successfully carried out in the years under review.

Fellow Malians, on the international front, Mali remains faithful to its constant principles of peaceful coexistence, dynamic and uncompromising nonalignment, peaceful settlement of disputes, noninterference in other states' internal affairs, and good-neighborliness. We maintain cooperation ties with all countries and institutions that respect our dignity and sovereignty. We continue to support the oppressed people and the liberation movements fighting for their emancipation and their independence. The perseverance of our South African brothers in their just struggle and the continued support from all peace- and justice-loving peoples like the Malian people have begun yielding tangible fruit. The apartheid regime has never before been driven into such tight corners as it is now. I will take the opportunity to call on the international community to increase pressure on the obnoxious, barbaric system with a view to putting an end to it.

Malians, during the past quarter of a century, difficulties and obstacles have stood in our way. But at this moment of reflection, we can say that Mali has asserted itself as a united nation, an organized state which has never failed its image as a country of hospitality, peace, justice, and friendship with all other peoples.

Through joint efforts by all Malians — united and insolidarity — we will build a strong and prosperous Mali. We will thus feel proud to be a part of our history. I am convinced that we will meet this challenge and that we will leave a solid heritage to our children. Long live Mali! Long live the republic!

Agriculture Minister Returns From Visit to PRC

*AB202232 Bamako Domestic Service in French
2015 GMT 20 Sep 85*

[Excerpt] Lieutenant Colonel Issa Ongoiba [minister of agriculture] has just returned to Bamako following a visit to the PRC at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart. According to Minister Ongoiba, this visit was satisfactory for it gave him the opportunity to become familiar with realities in China, which is rich with a very ancient culture, and also, and above all, permitted him to inspect and appreciate the great agricultural projects of China, which is today self-sufficient in food supply thanks to the genius and courage of its people.

[Begin Ongoiba recording] We drew several lessons from this visit. First of all, continuity in action, diversification of crops, and often very simple methods used to produce up to 10 tons per hectare in two harvests or 5 tons per hectare in one harvest. So we, on our part, made a request to the PRC for aid, which (?it

accepted). For when we visited the tea, cane farms, and the irrigated rice cultivation system we saw what possibilities there are at this level. We, for our part, believe that the PRC can help us, in the field of agricultural machinery, to adapt the equipment to the current rudimentary level of our farmers. [End recording]

NIGER

List on New Government Members Released

AB231742 Paris AFP in French 1632 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] Niamey, 23 Sep (AFP) — Here is the list of the new government of Niger formed on Monday:

Chairman of the Supreme Military Council, head of state, minister of defense, minister of interior:
General Seyni Kountche

Prime minister:
Hamid Algabit (unchanged)

Minister of civil service and labor:
Quartermaster Mamadou Beidari (former minister in charge of public establishments, parastatals, and state enterprises)

Minister of youth and sports:
Major Toumba Boubacar (new)

Minister of information, culture, posts and telecommunications:
Daouda Diallo (functions extended to include culture, posts and telecommunications)

Minister of national education, higher education and research:
Illa Malkassoum (functions extended to include national education)

Minister of public works and housing:
Yacoub Moumouni (unchanged)

Minister delegate for interior:
Amadou Fiti Maiga (unchanged)

Minister of public health and social affairs:
Abdou Moudi (unchanged)

Minister of agriculture:
Allele Elhadj Habibou (former minister of justice)

Minister of finance:
Boukary Adji (unchanged)

Minister of mines and energy:
Sani Koutoubi (unchanged)

Minister of justice:
Hadj Nadjir (former minister of civil service and labor)

Minister of commerce, industry, and transport:
Amadou Houhou (functions extended to include industries)

Minister of hydrology and environment:
Attaher Darkoye (former minister of education)

Minister of planning:
Almoustapha Soumaila (unchanged)

Minister of foreign affairs and cooperation:
Mahamane Sani Bako (new)

Minister of animal resources:
Sahma Haladou (former secretary of state for rural development)

Minister delegate to the prime minister in charge of public establishments, state enterprises, and parastatals:
Mama Moussa Ooukar (new)

Secretary of state for national education:
Amadou Madougou (new)

Secretary of state for interior:
Abdoulaye Khamed (new)

Top Civil Servants Listed

AB241815 Paris AFP in French 1544 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Niamey, 24 Sep (AFP) — General Seyni Kountche, Niger head of state, on Tuesday appointed Yahaya Tounkara, minister of state for hydrology and environment in the previous government, grand chancellor of national orders, with the rank and prerogatives of a minister, it was learned officially. He replaces General Dupuis Henri Yacouba, the highest-ranking officer in the Niger Army, who is retiring.

Gen Kountche has also made several appointments of high functionaries to complete the cabinet reshuffle of Monday: Thus, he has chosen Hama Hamadou, formerly director general of the Niger Radio and Television Broadcasting Office, (ORTN), to head his office, replacing Mahamane Sani Bako, who has been appointed minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

Hama Hamadou was replaced at the head of ORTN by Djibrilla Hama, secretary general at the Ministry of Commerce and Transport. Aboubacar Kio Koudize, former editor in chief of the national newspaper, *LE SAHEL*, takes over the directorship of the national radio station, "The Voice of the Sahel," replacing Khamed Abdoulaye, the new secretary of state for interior.

Finally, Gen Kountche has appointed Amadou Mayaki director general of the Niger Electricity Company (NIGELEC), and Garba Sidikou, a former minister, secretary general of the National Development (?Commission).

Kountche, Ministers Examine 1986 Budget
AB202245 Niamey Domestic Service in French
0600 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers met from 16 to 19 September 1985 under the chairmanship of Brigadier Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council, head of state, and

chairman of the Council of Ministers, and examined the draft ordinance on the budget for the 1986 fiscal year. As was the case for the fiscal year which is now ending, rigor will be the keynote concerning the 1986 budget. In the face of the difficult world economic situation, which was aggravated last year by the adverse consequences of a shortfall in crops and by the great disorder that affected inter-regional trade and capital movement, the government is determined to continue its financial reorganization efforts aimed at reviving the economy.

The budget is balanced and totals of 87,930,385,000 CFA francs, that is a 2.28 percent increase compared to the previous fiscal year. The capital budget, which comprises national and foreign financing meant for public investments, has substantially increased from 69,560,629,000 CFA francs in 1985 to 80 billion in 1986, that is a 12.13 percent increase, which shows the government's determination to reinforce its economic recovery program.

NIGERIA

Presidents of Benin, Togo Send Babangida Message

AB202250 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida today at Dodan Barracks received a special message from his Togolese and Beninois [as heard] counterparts. The message contains proposals on the implementation of the agreement signed last December by the heads of state of the three countries and Ghana. The agreement provides for meetings of the foreign, internal affairs, and justice ministers of the four nations every 6 months to discuss mutual (?matters). But since they signed the accord, officials of the four countries have not met as scheduled. The Togolese and Beninois heads of state requested President Babangida, as the current ECOWAS chairman, to help to ensure that the agreement is (?functioning). President Babangida reiterated his pledge that Nigeria will honor previous agreements with her neighbors.

The Togolese foreign minister, Mr Koffi Amegah, told newsmen later that it was necessary for heads of state of the four nations to consult regularly to examine how far the agreement has been implemented. The agreement provides for cooperation in matters relating to security, defense, extradition, free movement of people, and economic development.

Akiyemi Holds Talks With FRG Minister

LD191456 Hamburg DPA in German 1418 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Bonn/Lagos, 19 Sep (DPA) — At the start of his 2 days of talks in the Nigerian capital of Lagos today, Juergen Moellermann, minister of state in the Bonn Foreign Office, met Nigerian External Affairs Minister Bolaji Akiyemi for an exchange of views. According to the Foreign Office the discussions were predominantly concerned with bilateral relations and problems on the African Continent, especially the situation in southern Africa.

Lagos State Enacts Edict on Religious Preachings
AB201530 Lagos Domestic Service in English
 1500 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] An edict to control religious preachings has been enacted by the Lagos State government. The law, which took effect from 23 July, makes the use of residential premises for religious preaching an offense. Preaching on moving or stationary vehicles has also been prohibited. The edict requires religious organizations operating in the state to register with the office of the permanent secretary, Government Office, within 3 months of the commencement of the edict. Contravention of this provision is punishable on conviction by a fine of 2,000 naira or 1 year imprisonment, or both.

[Senghor] Mr Minister, concerning Tunisia and Libya, in recent days it has been noted that the tension has been reduced. Can we now say that the situation is returning to normal?

[Caid es-Sebsi] I do not think that a state of tension can be last forever. Of course, there is a serious situation, certainly the most serious development in our relations in the past 5 years. Tunisia is a serious country which tries to settle problems in a responsible manner. It has never been its intention to worsen the situation. Unfortunately, we have been victims of an unacceptable situation and we reacted in a manner which conforms with our principles. But it is not a habit and a principle for Tunisia to look for quarrels with its neighbors. [End recording]

SENEGAL

Tunisian Foreign Minister Delivers Message
AB202140 Dakar Domestic Service in French
 2000 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] The Tunisian foreign minister was received this afternoon by President Abdou Diouf. He was the bearer of a written message from President Habib Bourguiba, his Tunisian counterpart. After the audience, he met our reporter Sophie Senghor:

[Begin recording] [Caid es-Sebsi] President Abdou Diouf was kind enough to hold a lengthy talk with me. During the talk we reviewed our excellent bilateral relations as well as our cooperation which is progressing in the interest of the two countries. We also spoke about problems of our Maghreb region and the recent events that occurred in the region. President Abdou Diouf, as current OAU chairman, expressed concern about this negative development in relations between the Maghreb countries in recent days, such as relations between Libya and Tunisia as well other countries in the region. I informed President Abdou Diouf about the development in this situation, its various aspects, and I also received his advice.

TOGO

Eyadema Receives Nigerian Delegation, Babangida message
AB231842 Lome Domestic Service in French
 1230 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the republic, has received a Nigerian delegation led by Lieutenant Colonel Mbaba, military adviser for defense affairs at the Nigerian Ministry of Defense. Lt Col Mbaba conveyed to Gen Eyadema a verbal message from General Babangida, president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. After the audience Lt Col Mbaba talked to the press about his visit:

[Begin Mbaba recording -- in English fading into French translation] I have come here in my capacity as defense adviser of Nigeria. My presence here falls within the framework of a good-will visit to the Togolese head of state. What we discussed relates to the good relations that both countries want to maintain between them. I also brought a message from the president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the president of the Republic of Togo. [End recording]

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Receives Nigerian Vice Marshal

MB240704 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] President of the Republic Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos received yesterday A.I. Shekari, vice marshal of the Nigerian Armed Forces and delegate minister for special duties, who has been touring the country since yesterday. A.I. Shekari is touring Angola to assess the damage caused to Angola following the recent South African invasion and the possibility of Nigerian aid, as recently stated by the new Lagos authorities.

The Nigerian official expressed to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos the solidarity of the people of Nigeria with the Angolan people whom he encouraged to continue the struggle against imperialist actions. A.I. Shekari delivered to the Angolan head of state a message from President Ibrahim Babangida dealing with the latest events in Nigeria.

Savimbi Says Jamba in Danger of Falling

MB241932 Johannesburg Television Service in English
1800 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Interview with UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi by SABC's Cliff Saunders at Jamba, southern Angola, on the "Network" program — recorded; date not given]

[Text] Dr Jonas Savimbi's UNITA forces are reeling in the wake of a determined MPLA assault. Today Dr Savimbi is a worried man, as his units battle to stave off further assaults. Meanwhile, South Africa has admitted this week that it does render humanitarian, moral, and material assistance to UNITA. Cliff Saunders has been speaking to Dr Savimbi about the latest developments.

[Begin recording] [Saunders] This past weekend, for the first time, the UNITA leader conceded that Jamba, headquarters of the UNITA — but more than that, spiritual home of the guerrillas, the place for spectacular morale-building ceremonies, where VIP's and newsmen went and were impressed; Jamba, the epitome of order, neatness, and discipline, outstripping that to be found in most towns of Africa; this proud place of UNITA is today under threat. Barely 1 month ago, Dr Savimbi declared to a news conference that there was no question of Jamba falling to the enemy. We are ready for them, he confidently proclaimed. We will hold Jamba for the next 10 years and more, if necessary. This weekend, he told surprised journalists that Jamba was in danger of being lost. UNITA had abandoned one strategic town, Cazombo. Another, Mavinga, situated 200 km north of Jamba, was under heavy attack. If that fell, the full might of the MPLA forces, supported by Cubans, Russians, Katangese, and SWAPO, would turn their attention to Jamba. We may, he declared, have to build another Jamba somewhere else in the bush. But why is Dr Savimbi in trouble? Why, in the past, did he beat back MPLA offensives with ease, while now he is losing ground?

[Savimbi] We have been fighting the FAPLA for some time, and you have heard of several offenses, and it was not very difficult for us to beat those offensives. But this time it became difficult, and we understood something was wrong, something new was in it. Until we got, through our own intelligence, hard facts, that the Soviets were involved. And now — when we know that some of them are injured, some of them are killed, and that helicopters come to pick them up — we have all those facts, that we can prove to the world that the Soviets are there.

[Saunders] Now that the Soviets are involved in the fighting, are you hoping for any Western assistance?

[Savimbi] Why (?just) not? If the Russians are on one side — and I think that President Reagan has said this very clearly, that he would like to see the people fighting for freedom, for free societies, to win. President Reagan has (?painted) us all, who have formed the International Democrats here, as freedom fighters. And I think that it is (?much) for the Americans to be involved than not to be involved. Because even if you have followed the visitors like President Machel to Washington 1 or 2 days ago, President Reagan said that his aim is to win Machel over from the Soviet Union [words indistinct]. I do not think that President Reagan would like to see in his second term Angola to go completely Russian, and the freedom fighters (?cut).

[Saunders] You have denied, President Savimbi, that South African forces have assisted UNITA during their incursions into Angola. But, have South Africans not at least been drawing fire away from UNITA?

[Savimbi] If you want to associate the incursion that South African troops have made now in Cunene in hot pursuit against SWAPO, and the offensive, it was a coincidence. But the fact remains that it will not divert Army aircraft, Army tanks, Army troops of Cubans/MPLA on us. And I think it is two things, completely different.

[Saunders] In other words, South Africa did not even come across any MPLA troops during its offensive over here, and became involved in battle against them?

[Savimbi] As far as I know, no. They were only fighting against SWAPO, and also they were not (?picking) up the resistance, but they are there, for the SWAPO's, and I think there is something that we have to get straight. A guerrilla group never disappears. So that if the SWAPO's are not a major military threat in Namibia, as long as they have Angola as a base, they are a threat, a permanent threat. They will come in any time, to put bombs, to shell towns, to shell residential areas. So then, I do not think that could discount completely SWAPO, as long as they have a safe base in Angola.

[Saunders] Dr Savimbi, there are some people in South Africa who say that the SADF should assist UNITA in a very decisive way, they should join with you in going for the MPLA, going for the Cubans, going for the Russians. Well, why not?

[Savimbi] I do not think that that is the way of solving the problem. But in the way it is that I know, from my own conversations with President Botha, that he has sustained sympathy and

support towards our (?trouble) and he would never leave us in the lurch. And when we will need support, he will give it. But I do not mean we are calling upon the South African Army to be involved. That is a different thing. When the South African Army is involved in Namibia, it is different, because the colonial power it has to take care of the population until they are free. But when they cross the border in support of UNITA, it becomes different. We will be in the same position as the MPLA with the Cubans and with the Russians. But the assistance, I think the president will give it.

[Saunders] Finally, Dr Savimbi, are you in trouble now? Or put it this way, are you in bigger trouble now than you ever have been before?

[Savimbi] I have been in trouble several times. All my life, I have been in trouble several times. The only thing is that now, this offensive is a difficult one. But not that it will put me in such trouble that I have never been before. I told you one day that, in 1976, when a BBC reporter was telling me that you are finished, and I am not finished. But today it is completely different, completely different to take a town like Cazombo, because I said, if I ordered my people to stand for Cazombo, they could have [been] fighting today. But I thought, we have a better way: to leave it, and to (?strangle) it, after that. So then, I do not think that I am really in (?trouble) [words indistinct]. [End recording]

LESOTHO

Opposition Leaders Comment on Election
MB201010 Johannesburg Television Service in English
1800 GMT 19 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Lesotho held its first elections in 15 years this week — or, rather, didn't. This strange turn of events came about after opposition parties boycotted the elections, complaining of intimidation and electoral malpractices. The result was that the ruling Basotho National Party's candidates were returned unopposed. So, no real election. Was the whole event a meaningless charade? Paul Moorcraft went to Maseru to find out.

[Begin recording] [Moorcraft] Lesotho's elections were supposed to have been held on 17 and 18 of this month. The opposition parties boycotted them because of alleged electoral malpractices, so Chief Jonathan romped home with 60 uncontested seats. Did the opposition parties play into the hands of the prime minister?

[Charles Mofeli, United Democratic Party leader] As you are aware, the electoral lists were withheld from the opposition parties until after the nomination day. How could the opposing parties under the circumstances have taken part?

[Phoka Chaolane, Basotho Democratic Alliance chairman] Well, we wanted to stand elections, even though we saw they would be rigged. This is why we have never said we did not want to participate.

[G.P. Ramoreboli, Basotho Congress Party leader] During the time of the British, people would not just do things like that. They would like to find out exactly what is wrong, and we would

be able to be in a position to explain what we thought was absolutely out of order.

[A.C. Manyeli, Independence Party leader] My name is not in the register's list. I do not know. I have sent letters to the chief electoral officer to explain why my name does not appear in the register. And even the name of the village in which I live. Names of all [words indistinct].

[Unidentified speaker] Three guys came to my house, and those three were carrying the AK-47. So they threatened to kill me.

[Moorcraft] If the elections were going to be rigged, why should Chief Jonathan bother to hold elections at all?

[Makaho Khaketla, Freedom Party leader] He was trying to bow to a lot of pressure from donor countries, who have been pouring money in to the country for the last 15 years without making sure that he has a mandate from the people.

[Moorcraft] Four or five parties which form the loose opposition coalition maintain that denial of access to proper voters lists, as well as threats, prevented them from contesting the election. The ruling Basotho National Party denies any gerrymandering or intimidation. Government spokesman, Desmond Sixishe:

[Sixishe] They did not put up any candidates, simply because they did not have any support. First of all, they did not have candidates to put up, and secondly they did not have the witnesses that are required by law to have. And they failed to comply with the conditions of nomination day.

[Moorcraft] They say that they could not call political meetings, because of intimidation by the national party youth league.

[Sixishe] Well, that is, as far as I am concerned, that is a very feeble excuse for political impotence, really.

[Moorcraft] The government says that many Basotho back them because they believe South Africa was supporting the opposition. Clearly, though, not all the Basotho have rallied behind Chief Jonathan. Some welcomed the nonelection so as to avoid a repetition of the bloodshed of the early 1970's. Students at Roma University and elements of the predominantly Roman Catholic clergy oppose the government. Last week Lesotho's only daily newspaper, THE NATION, was closed partly for financial reasons, but also, according to sacked employees, because it was considered antigovernment. Nevertheless, despite talk of North Korean-trained death squads, most opposition leaders speak loudly and freely about the lack of free speech.

[Mofeli] It is exactly like Nazi Germany. As I said earlier, Jonathan is a true counterpart of Hitler.

[Moorcraft] Some of them want the king to intervene in the crisis. For the immediate future, however, Lesotho looks set to becoming a one-party state, although the government rejects this description.

[Sixishe] The Government of Lesotho, especially the ruling BNP, is committed to a multiparty system. We will continue to be

committed to that multiparty system, but we cannot stop the people if they have a preference for one party.

[Moerckroft] Increasingly, Lesotho's politics are being internationalized. More U.S. aid counterbalanced the expansion of the Soviet Embassy. The Russians are said to use Maseru as a KGB intelligence base. In 1982 South Africa raised the stakes when the SADF hit ANC bases in the capital. Lesotho also fears the backwash of sanctions imposed on South Africa. Their particular concern is the repatriation of their miners in the republic. But a pressing current issue for the government is their accusation, which South Africa firmly denies, that Pretoria is behind the LLA [Lesotho Liberation Army]. Lesotho's traditional ways are threatened by the political facts of life, and the main fact is that Lesotho's fate is inextricably bound to that of South Africa's. Whatever the final outcome of this month's nonelection in Lesotho, Chief Jonathan looks set to add another 5 years to his 20 years in power, but whether he can maintain his balancing act between East and West and his delicate detente with South Africa is an open question. [End recording]

PRC Congratulates Jonathan on New Term
MB220610 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 21 Sep 85

[Text] The premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Mr Zhao Ziyang, sent a message of congratulations to the Right Honorable Prime Minister Dr Leabua Jonathan, on his reassumption of the office of prime minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

In a statement released from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Maseru, Mr Zhao Ziyang said that he extended his own warm congratulations and that of the Chinese Government and people. He said that he wished the friendly relations and cooperation between China and Lesotho would continue to grow in strength and develop further. He added that he wished the Kingdom of Lesotho prosperity and his people and his people well-being.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Says Meeting With Reagan 'Positive'
MB201444 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1100 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Speech by President Samora Machel after meeting President Reagan in Washington on 19 September — recorded]

[Text] Thank you very much. We are here at the invitation of President Ronald Reagan. We sincerely thank President Reagan's for the friendly reception. Our objective is to consolidate bilateral relations and define the long-term development of these relations.

The meeting which I have just held with President Ronald Reagan was very positive, fruitful, and constructive. I took the opportunity to express my thanks for the food and development aid which the United States has been giving us. Mozambique is

an independent and nonaligned African country. We value our independence. We take pride in our independence. We stubbornly defend our national interests. We believe that, like us, each people must control its own country's destiny.

Our main preoccupation is to solve the basic problems of the people, and help the region in which we live become a region characterized by peace, stability, good-neighborliness, cooperation, and development. To this end, we signed the Nkomati Accord with the Republic of South Africa, an essential condition for peace and development. The People's Republic of Mozambique has been observing the Nkomati Accord rigorously. The need for the urgent elimination of apartheid is a common preoccupation. Mozambique appreciates the efforts which the international community, including the United States, has made in that direction. We hope that these efforts will be continued and that they will result in the independence of Namibia, and in peace and stability for the whole of southern Africa.

Mozambique is still a backward and underdeveloped country, but it has immense potential and many natural resources. We desire the participation of the U.S. private sector in the exploration of these resources for our economic and social development.

I am sure that the meeting which I just held with President Ronald Reagan has created a solid basis for long-term cooperation between Mozambique and the United States in all fields, to the mutual benefit of both, so that we can develop the friendship to which we all aspire.

Thank you very much, Mr President.

FPLM Kill 17 'Bandits' in Zambezia Clash
MB201847 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 20 Sep 85

[Text] The Mozambican Armed Forces, FPLM, frustrated an attempt by armed bandits to attack Namacurra District, in Zambezia Province, on 16 September. Our correspondent in Quelimane revealed today that during the clash the FPLM killed 17 criminals and captured an assortment of war materiel from the enemy, including rockets, bozookas, and light weapons ammunition.

Speaking on this FPLM victory, a military source said that the prompt response which the FPLM gave the armed bandits in Namacurra is proof of the confidence felt by our forces in the face of the enemy.

Recently, four armed bandits were killed by the FPLM forces in Luabo, and six other criminals were neutralized in Maganja da Costa District when they tried to rob a group of peasants working on their plantations.

25 'Bandits' Killed in Maputo Province

MB232014 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1900 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The Mozambican Armed Forces stationed in Maputo Province killed 25 armed bandits last weekend. According to a spokesman from the Maputo provincial military command, these bandits were killed during operations launched in the Mahica area. The spokesman also said that during the operations two other bandits surrendered to the Mozambican Armed Forces. Eight light weapons of the AKM type were captured. These operations are part of the military offensive being launched in the country against the armed bandits.

FPLM Captures 'Bandit' Camp in Zambezia

MB242009 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1900 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] FPLM soldiers attacked and captured on 20 September an important camp of the armed bandits in the Vuruca area, on the border between Namacurra and Mocuba Districts in Zambezia Province. The camp was the planning center for criminal operations launched by the bandits in the center and south of Zambezia Province. According to a source in the Mozambican Armed Forces, it was from that camp that the armed bandits carried out looting, murdering, and destruction against the railroad and road that link Quelimane to Mocuba, as well as in some areas of the Namacurra, Mocuba, and Maganja da Costa Districts.

21 MNR Members Killed in Raid on Camp

MB241832 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] The security forces have reported killing 21 MNR terrorists 11 days ago in an attack on an MNR camp at Nhamatanda, in the central Province of Sofala. The camp was taken in follow-up operations, after the capture by a joint Mozambican-Zimbabwean force of the MNR's main base at Gorongosa, not far from Nhamatanda, on 28 August.

3 SADF Soldiers Detained for Illegal Entry

MB231833 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1700 GMT 23 Sep 85

[Text] The Mozambican Government informed the South African authorities a week ago that three South African soldiers were detained after illegally entering the territory of the People's Republic of Mozambique. This was divulged today by AIM citing an official source in Maputo.

The soldiers, (Toth) and Van Eydam, and the corporal, (Kolenda), were reported missing by the South African authorities last week. At that time a ground and air search operation was launched immediately. Then, a South African Armed Forces spokesman in Pretoria said that there were suspicions that the three military men, who were serving on the Nkomati

joint control operations committee, which controls illegal emigration from Mozambique, had fled to a neighboring country.

SOUTH AFRICA**Malan Cites Security Interests in Angola**

MB241607 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
23 Sep 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by Arrie Rossouw headlined: "Russians Now Fighting on Frontline"]

[Excerpts] South Africa's security interests in southern Angola are of the utmost importance and its security forces would act according to the threat this represents, Defense Minister Magnus Malan said yesterday in an interview with BEELD.

In the present circumstances in Angola, where Russian soldiers for the first time are directly involved in the offensive against UNITA, South Africa is still providing only material, humanitarian, and moral support to UNITA, but the situation is changing rapidly and this position is accordingly being revised. Military involvement is not excluded.

Gen Malan also said America and the West will now have to say where they stand in light of Russian involvement in Angola. He expressed the hope that they would begin to act responsibly.

This appeal comes in the midst of confirmation last night by the Department of Foreign Affairs that a group of senior officials from the department left yesterday morning for America. They will apparently be holding discussions in Washington on the war which is now raging in southern Angola between the MPLA and UNITA.

SAPA reports that in diplomatic circles it is believed that the officials have gone to America to seek support for the South African Government in the event that South Africa should decide to extend its military assistance to UNITA.

According to an official statement issued yesterday in Pretoria, the visit was arranged some time ago to discuss the question of South-West Africa, but within Western diplomatic circles the delegation has been "upgraded" to handle the Angolan crisis.

Earlier this weekend, UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, at a news conference at Jamba, his headquarters in the south of Angola, called on the world, and especially America, to support him in the "greatest onslaught yet" against his resistance movement in the area around Cazombo and Mavinga in southern Angola.

Gen Malan's veiled warning to the Angolan Government not to endanger South Africa's security interests in southern Angola follows the announcement by Dr Savimbi that the current offensive by the MPLA forces is aimed at destroying UNITA's nerve center, Jamba, about 200 km south of Mavinga, and disrupting UNITA's operations over large parts of Angola.

Gen Malan repeated his statement of Friday, and said South African links with UNITA would only be terminated when all foreign and surrogate forces had left Angola.

He said UNITA is doing a great service for the anti-Marxist forces in southern Africa and if the offensive against this movement succeeds, it would worsen the instability in the region.

He could not say at this stage whether, apart from material, humanitarian, and moral assistance, South Africa would also provide military support to UNITA. However, he pointed out that in the past FAPLA forces had involved themselves in SADF actions against SWAPO, and the SADF had taken action against FAPLA without hesitation. It did not matter who was involved in the threat.

Gen Malan could not say what action would be taken in future, even if UNITA's headquarters were threatened, but with South Africa's security interests in mind the situation in southern Angola is being monitored constantly.

Envoy Beukes Comments on U.S. Reaction to UNITA
MB242012 Johannesburg Television Service in English
1800 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Interview with Ambassador to the United States Herman Beukes by Donna Doigt on the "Network" program — live]

[Text] [Doigt] And now to South Africa's ambassador in Washington for an update on international opinion, or more precisely, in fact, U.S. opinion. Ambassador, what in fact has been the U.S. reaction to South Africa's declared support of UNITA?

[Beukes] The Reagan administration has reacted, but in a manner, through channels, the proper channels, diplomatic channels — the embassy, our embassy here, and the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria.

[Doigt] Has reacted in what way, Ambassador?

[Beukes] Simply by maintaining views known on it, on our remarks. It is a factor, of course, that had not come totally unexpected. It was news that was not of any great surprise, the fact that the UNITA factor is something that we have to reckon with. The Reagan administration knows that South Africa's security interests are such that there are times that our views, that our interests will diverge, that there will not always be common interests in the area.

[Doigt] Do you foresee, then, some type of significant U.S. support for UNITA, in view of Reagan's own declared policy to hold back Soviet expansionism? Is that in fact what you are implying?

[Beukes] What is known in this country, and publicly, is a factor that has come into play, namely, the repeal of the Clarke Amendment. That, of course, has very much a bearing on U.S. interests in Angola, but that is an issue that the Reagan administration has to decide for itself; it has to decide how it is going

to use that. I do not believe that it is a matter for us to speculate on in public.

[Doigt] There are two foreign affairs officials currently in Washington. What in fact is the precise nature of their mission?

[Beukes] During these last couple of months, the public media, public attention in the United States, has been very much preoccupied by domestic developments inside South Africa. But all along, there has always been the international issue, namely the South-West African issue. It is something that we know that we have to deal with, it is something that still has to be resolved, it is something that sort of was momentarily pushed onto the back burner. It is now proper time, we believe, to also move forward on that particular issue. And these representatives of our government, they have come to Washington to deal with this, to discuss, and talk.

[Doigt] Rumor has it, ambassador, that their mission has now been expanded, in view of the move into Angola, to incorporate the problem of Angola, and possibly to persuade the U.S. Administration to have words or negotiations with the Russians, to perhaps prevent direct Soviet-South African confrontation.

[Beukes] I believe that we should perhaps not pay too much attention to public rumors, public ideas. We are all aware, and very much so, about the stakes at issue. Obviously, in a situation as we currently have, these talks, a broad range of issues, are going to be addressed, and so far we have been addressing them today. We started this morning, in Washington, discussing them. After all, the United States is a global power, a global interest. South Africa has definitely regional interests in the area, the United States is aware of that, and we are concerned about those matters, and for that purpose and reason there will always be a need for us to discuss these issues.

[Doigt] And may I ask you to answer briefly, Ambassador, in view of the denials, the admissions, the plot, the counterplot, the Nkomati violations, what happened in Angola? Have we much credibility left in the United States?

[Beukes] I have to believe that after our thorough discussion of that issue today with high Reagan administration officials, that there is a much better understanding, a clearer perception of what is at issue in Mozambique, what has happened from our side. I think that there is a proper understanding now of what lay behind many of those events.

[Doigt] Ambassador, thank you for joining us on "Network."

SAP Confirms UDF Member Died in Police Custody
MB241850 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1850 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] East London, Sept 24, SAPA — A 35-year-old eastern Cape activist died in hospital on Saturday after he was arrested last Friday evening, a police spokeswoman for the eastern Cape confirmed today.

Mr Mbuyiselo Mbotya, 35, of Ginsberg, near King Williams Town, was arrested on Friday evening for a criminal offence and was taken to police cells in King Williams Town, where he became ill, the spokeswoman said. Police took him to hospital in the town and he was transferred to East London's Frere Hospital on Saturday morning.

The spokeswoman said the cause of Mr Mbotya's death was not known and police were investigating the incident. It would be "improper" to reveal the reason for his arrest, she added.

The dead man was a member of the King Williams Town Youth League and the United Democratic Front.

Frere Hospital's medical superintendent, Dr Ben Hall, confirmed that Mr Mbotya had died at the hospital and his body had been taken to Cambridge mortuary. He said he did not know the cause of death and it was a "police case."

Mr Mbotya's sister, Nomtandazo, said her brother was arrested by two policemen while he was walking with his girlfriend. They put him into a van and drove away.

On Saturday her family received a telegram from Frere, asking her parents to go urgently to the hospital. When they arrived at 1.45 pm Mr Mbotya was in a ward and could not speak, she said.

His eyes were closed and he seemed to have difficulty breathing. She and her mother learned later that her brother was to have had a head operation, Miss Mbotya said.

Mr Mbotya had been working in Port Elizabeth until four months ago. Earlier last week he was arrested with rioting schoolchildren at Ginsberg township, near King Williams Town, and later released, his sister said.

Weapons Cache, Mine Found in Pretoria
MB250900 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0857 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sep 25, SAPA — A weapons cache was found in the Pretoria area yesterday, police said today.

The cache, which included a mini-limpet mine with primer, electronic detonators and a wiring diagram for an explosive device, was found just 200 metres off the Cullinan Road in the Pretoria area, a police statement to SAPA said.

The statement said the cache was found after close cooperation between "alert members of the public" and the SAP.

A stopwatch with wires soldered to it was also found. The identification tag on the clock showed it had been bought in Botswana, the statement added.

The diagram indicated that the cache, or a major portion of it, would have been used in the manufacture of a car bomb and a

diagram also found in the cache indicated a target in Pretoria had already been identified, the police statement said.

Police would not reveal the identity of the target, the statement said.

Police Clash With Students, Arrest Cameramen
MB241318 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1300 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Police are reported to have moved in after a mass rally at the University of the Western Cape. Rafiq Rohan is there.

[Rohan] More than 3,000 students merged after a mass rally at the University of the Western Cape after being addressed by Helen Joseph. After trying to disperse freely, the students were confronted by heavily armed police in three Casspirs and about eight Buffels. They were warned by the officer in charge to disperse, but retaliated by throwing stones. Tear gas was fired onto the campus, and students scattered in all directions. The press received an earlier warning, which was ignored, and the police moved in on them. More than three overseas camera crews were arrested by them.

Police Report 1 Dead in Arson Incidents
MB241712 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1700 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sept 24, SAPA — Here is the 7 pm unrest report, issued by the SAP Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria:

"In Guguletu, near Cape Town, a 20-year-old black male (bus conductor) was burnt to death today after his bus was attacked and set alight.

"In Bellville South, two coloured males were arrested for public violence after a stone-throwing incident at private vehicles.

"In Langa, in the western Cape, a delivery vehicle was set alight.

"In Zwide, near Port Elizabeth, a 62-year-old black male who was a member of a working team of the town council was axed to death when the working team was attacked by a mob with axes.

"Thirty-three black males aged between 16 and 33 years of age were arrested in connection with the incident.

"In Umlazi, near Durban, a delivery vehicle carrying furniture was set alight."

Former Transkei Student Official Killed
MB250548 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0300 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] A former member of the University of Transkei [UNITRA] SRC [Students Representative Council] has been

shot dead. The dead man's brother believes he was killed by police and the local hospital has confirmed the man died of gunshot wounds. Frans Kruger has more details:

Bogisile Njebeza said his brother, Bathandwa Ndondo was picked up by men in plain clothes at their home in the small town of Cele in the morning. They had said they wanted to ask him some questions but took him to the outskirts of the town where they killed him in full view of residents. Njebeza said eyewitnesses had told him his brother was repeatedly shot as the killers moved at him. He added three of the eyewitnesses had to be treated for shock. Njebeza said he later found his brother's body at the hospital and was told it had been taken there by policemen.

Njebeza said he was convinced his brother had been killed by police. Ndondo was one of the members of the UNITRA SRC which was suspended by the university last year. He was currently working as a rural health coordinator.

Police Kill 'Attacker' in Overnight Incidents

MB250637 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0632 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sep 25, SAPA — Herewith the 8am unrest report, issued by the SAP Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria:

"Unrest was restricted to the eastern, western, south-western Cape and the West Rand last night.

"On the Hermansdorp main road near Uitenhage, a private vehicle was stoned by a small group of blacks. A white woman was slightly injured.

"At New Brighton near Noupoot, an SAP member was stoned in the black residential area. He fired at his attackers with a pistol, killing a black man and wounding a black youth.

"In the Mohlakeng black residential area near Randfontein, a black man was slightly injured when SADF members fired birdshot to disperse stonethrowers who attacked their vehicle.

"Yesterday afternoon in Modderdam Avenue, Bellville South, students and scholars formed an illegal gathering. Police who were in attendance did not intervene. When this mob started stoning private vehicles, police used tear smoke to disperse them and two coloured males were arrested."

Assault Charges Filed Against Western Cape Police

MB250659 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0500 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Excerpts] The western Cape police are being accused of brutality. Seven residents from Guguletu near Cape Town have laid assault charges against members of the unit of Zulu-speaking and white police officers whom they say beat up people and looted a shop in the township on Monday afternoon. The shopow-

ner says he has suffered a burst ear drum as a result of the alleged assault and has gone into hiding. A second man apparently needed stitches for two head wounds sustained during an alleged beating with a rifle, baton, sjambok and with fists by police in his yard. The five other residents say they have bruises, cuts, welts, or marks to bear out their allegations.

Police headquarters in Pretoria say criminal charges cannot be investigated on the strength of complaints lodged with newspapers. They say they will take action only after formal statements are made at the nearest police station.

Still in the western Cape, police are facing accusations that they assaulted and tortured nine youths. The youths' parents called a news conference to publicize the claims. Beatty Hofmeyer was there:

The youths were arrested last week in Athlone in an area where there was no unrest. They were accused of instigating earlier unrest and taken to (Brockenveld) police station where they claim they were subjected to verbal and physical abuse. They were all released the next day without any charges being laid but they in turn have laid charges against the police for assault.

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency

MB240808 [Editorial report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency:

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 23 September says in its editorial, "The Convention Alliance which was launched in Sandton at the weekend, with the express aim of bringing about a national convention, is a lame-duck organisation." The problem is that the National Party (NP), the ANC, Nelson Mandela, the United Democratic Front (UDF), the Azanian People's Organization and other black organizations all reject a national convention, the newspaper says. "And there can be no national convention which does not include all of them — if a national convention is possible, which we seriously doubt." The fact that Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leader Frederik van Zyl Slabbert and KwaZulu Chief Gatsha Buthelezi are supporting the move will limit both white and black support for the idea, it says. "Besides, the Convention Alliance is likely to be overtaken by events if, for example, the Government puts Blacks into the President's Council, as is strongly rumoured, and turns it into a negotiating body for deciding Black political rights."

In an article in the same edition, Janine Stein reports Chief Buthelezi's remarks to the Convention Alliance meeting this weekend. Buthelezi said he was supporting the alliance proposed by Slabbert because Slabbert "supported his own political thinking in calling for a multi-strategy approach by those who opposed apartheid." Buthelezi said the minimum points of agreement which formed the basis for the alliance were a commitment to one constitution, based on one citizenship in one

country. However, if this is all the agreement that is possible, he warned, "forming the Alliance will be making a moral statement that is worth making, but it will be little more than that."

In a report by Keith Abendroth, *THE CITIZEN* says the Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) has "high hopes" of winning the Sasolburg seat in the upcoming by-elections, with the backing of Conservative Party members. Jaap Marais, leader of the HNP, has put his party's chances of success in the October 30 election at "somewhat more than 50 percent." "If the HNP wins in Sasolburg, it will be the first time in 32 years that the NP has lost a seat in the Free State," Abendroth reports.

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 23 September carries a report by Paul Bell which says while the Convention Alliance is undoubtedly an important political development, it may be the "victim of high expectations at this stage." A large part of the problem is UDF's lack of participation. "The alliance will direct much of its effort to persuading the UDF to join. But until this happens, the movement will lack any substantial base of support in the black community — and must ultimately stand or fall on that factor." An interesting side note to the alliance meeting, Bell says, was the presence of New Republic Party MP Pat Rogers, which led to "speculation that the party, which has had its support steadily whittled away by the NP and the PFF over the years, may at last be on the verge of dissolution."

Carel Boshoff, chairman of the Afrikaner Volkswag, says that "Government's reform measures and the recommendation that influx control be abolished would bring 300 years of Afrikanerdom to an end," Peter Wallington reports in the same edition of *BUSINESS DAY*. Boshoff said assurances that whites remained in control "cut no ice," and if Afrikaners should find their leaders losing political leverage, there could be "determined resistance to the present trend of affairs." Boshoff "warned that citizenship in 'white' SA would entitle blacks to political rights and power, and powersharing under the principles of democracy would lead to a black majority in the civil service, Defence Force and positions of authority." All of this would mean the erosion of Afrikaner protection, Boshoff said.

In its editorial of the same edition, *BUSINESS DAY* criticizes the government's new surcharge on imports, saying it "was a singularly inappropriate thing to do. It smacks of desperation among policymakers in a deteriorating economic situation, which has its roots in politics, and their inability to face this fact. It amounts to taxing the productive sectors of the economy to help pay for the aid needed for the poor. This is neither equitable nor wise." It is clear "given the political circumstances," *BUSINESS DAY* says, "a new economic policy is needed. But this type of piecemeal approach to symptoms of political intransigence could land us with more problems than it solves."

In a special *BUSINESS DAY* supplement entitled "Export Survey," Matthew White reports that despite statistics which show an excellent current export performance, "international hostility towards South Africa, engendered by apartheid, is exerting a strong negative influence and imperils future growth." The chief of the SA Foreign Trade Organisation (SAFTO) says an increasing number of its members are reporting the cancella-

tion of contracts. In some cases, trade unions are making it difficult for overseas buyers and "we expect cancellations to increase in the immediate future," he said. A UAL Merchant Bank official told White after returning from a recent visit to the Far East and Australia that there was intense pressure on international business not to trade with South Africa. "Expectation is now widespread that the effects of strong anti-SA feeling will make an increasing impact and that where importers can buy comparative products elsewhere at little or no premium, SA will receive least-favoured-nation treatment," White says. Businessmen suggest that "South African exporters must start building a reputation as reliable suppliers of high-quality, competitive goods and services," as a long-term strategy to counter the tide of animosity. There seems to be a consensus, White reports, that government should "keep a low profile" in any case, as "it is feared any up-front effort to promote South Africa on an official level might well prove counter-productive."

An accompanying article in the supplement notes that "exports to the rest of Africa are booming" despite the current political climate. "In the first half of this year the rand value of these exports was 94.5 percent up on the first six months of last year at R4826.9 m. While there is no doubt that a hefty chunk of the increase is merely a reflection of a weaker rand, SAFTO reports that sales of goods to neighbouring territories have definitely increased." The article says, "The so-called Frontline States have failed to lessen their dependence on SA as they are seeking to through SADCC." In spite of President Robert Mugabe's call for sanctions, "SA remains Zimbabwe's largest trading partner," it adds.

Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans of 20 September says in an editorial titled, "This is really surprising," that at a time when the country is again being asked about its troops inside Angola, we could have done with better news than the revelations by Foreign Minister Pik Botha about violations of the Nkomati Accord. Referring to the "surprising" facts in the minister's statement, it continues: "This kind of revelation makes one wonder if the government's right hand is not, then, always aware of what the left hand is up to." We remind ourselves, it continues, that the minister and some of his colleagues have repeatedly assured us that South Africa is abiding by the terms of the accord. After this, says the paper, such assurances will certainly not be accepted without skepticism.

In an editorial in the same issue, *BEELD* says the debate in this country is no longer whether to reform, but about the details of reform, especially regarding blacks. This, says the paper, is the message from the National Party congress in Pretoria. Citing the statements at the congress by various ministers, the paper says it is clear that important things are happening. Referring to the Convention Alliance call by Dr van Zyl Slabbert, the paper concludes: "One certain way to retard reform is to take the initiative away from the government, especially when one boasts elements in the alliance like the Black Sash, Dr Alex Boraine, and others."

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 22 September in an editorial comments on the present outcry over the

Renamo/UNITA allegations: "Reaction is predictable: It's the same old story when, for example, action is taken against SWAPO in Angola. But in the present climate the 'old story' has taken on an ominous aspect, and all the more so when it is suggested that the operation involved more than action against SWAPO. Propaganda against South Africa is almost gospel." The paper adds that one would like to accept that in the case of Renamo, negotiations were held with the best intentions for peace. "But whatever the case may be — there is undeniably a question mark about the Nkomati Accord. Without trying to be a wisacre: Orthodox correctness in diplomacy has its advantages. It is appropriate for the public to be informed and satisfied about such developments."

In a second editorial, the paper welcomes the news that the government is on the point of handing over certain state undertakings and state departments to the private sector. While praising the role of the state in building up the economy in the past, the paper adds that the state president has now, at the NP's Transvaal congress, spelled out in detail the advantages of greater privatization. "We hope that this process will now begin to take place. The country can only benefit from it," the paper concludes.

Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 23 September says in its editorial that the Convention Alliance, aware of the cynicism and the pitfalls surrounding its movement, has begun "with caution and a very small organizational base." The alliance's goal, the newspaper says, is to "strengthen the divided and leaderless middle-ground. It hopes for a moderate force that can bring the extremes to the debating table. Whether the alliance can create its own momentum and become independent of its political parents will depend mainly on whether business and the black and brown middle classes are prepared to form the nucleus." There will be much bickering both inside and outside the alliance, *THE STAR* predicts, "but even if the issues on which people disagree greatly outnumber the things they have in common, the latter may offer the only hope of peace."

On the editorial page of the same edition, *THE STAR* carried a statement by the Detainees Parents Support Committee (DPSC) which says the 62 days of emergency rule have "established new norms in our country. There is a tolerance of the greater use of force; there is space for the government to use this force not only in emergency but also in non-emergency areas; there is an acceptance that ending township violence is in some way related to a crackdown on the UDF and its affiliates; and the ever-increasing suppression of information of the activities of the SAP and SADF." Reports from around the country indicate that "while different regulations may apply in emergency and non-emergency areas, there is very little difference in the intensity of repression experienced by residents" and there is an Army presence in most black communities. "In non-emergency areas it would appear that the Internal Security Act is being used to detain large numbers of people," the DPSC says, and "of those detained under the Internal Security Act and known to the DPSC, all come from the non-emergency areas of Cape Town, Durban, Brandfort, Witbank, Middelburg, Northern Cape, and Pretoria. In Mdantsane, Ciskei Security Police detained 2,900 people whom they claimed were attending an illegal gathering. These examples would seem to suggest that an undeclared state of emergency exists in many areas not

included in the 36 emergency districts." In the second week of the emergency, a DPSC analysis showed that 86 percent of those detained "were members of the UDF and its affiliates," suggesting that "an important aim of the emergency was to smash extra-parliamentary opposition to apartheid under the guise of ending so-called 'township violence.'" The statement also notes that "prior to the emergency a barrage of legislation and regulations prevented the publication of detentions and SAP and SADF activity without official confirmation," forcing the public to rely on police announcements for information. The "present press controls, have in our view, been an important smokescreen for excessive emergency actions," DPSC concludes.

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 23 September comments on the murder trial of four white men who raped and killed a black woman. Even though two of the men received the death sentence, its editorial notes, there is skepticism among blacks that justice will be done because "justice here is loaded against blacks," and "almost every time the accused is white and the victim black, they 'get away with it.'" "But over and above this loss of faith in our system of justice, there is also a new vindictiveness in the comments from blacks; there was a scream for white blood." This is a new tone in black voices, the *S O W E T A N* says. "People like Bishop Desmond Tutu have been warning whites about it; they have been saying that there is a vast pool of good-will among blacks that whites should be exploiting now, before it is replaced by unreasoning hate." It is time for white South Africa to pause and think, the editorial concludes.

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 21 September says in its editorial, "If France can destroy an environmentalist movement's ship just to stop it from heading a protest against French atomic tests in the Pacific, then it is capable of dirty tricks of a magnitude that should earn it worldwide condemnation. Next time that Government wants to slate South Africa, let it remember the Rainbow Warrior Scandal. And then let it shut up. For if we are going to be preached to by a foreign government, then at least let its own hands be clean."

Further Reportage

MB250837 [Editorial Report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue to report and comment on the state of emergency:

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 24 September reports comments by Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis that "the Government would welcome discussions with Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi on the consolidation proposals for KwaZulu." "Mr Heunis said in a statement that, unlike the consolidation suggestions for other homelands, the Government has not taken a standpoint on KwaZulu. The Government instructed the commission to announce its proposals as proposals of the commission and not of the Government, for investigation, hearing of evidence, representation and consideration," Mr Heunis said. "He added that a government review of the proposals would be started, 'with a view to possible revision.'" Mr Heunis said he would welcome discussion with Chief Buthelezi on any representations he would

like to make about the proposed consolidation." Buthelezi has said he and his administration would have nothing to do with the proposals, the article notes. "I am very thankful that Chief Minister Buthelezi has reacted to these proposals of the commission," the article quotes Henais as saying. "This only underlines the importance of the consolidation process, and the fact that the Chief Minister himself would like to make an input before final decisions are taken is very pleasing."

An article by Brian Stuart in the same edition reports "An 'action plan' to generate more jobs, encourage small businesses and get rid of red tape restrictions on economic growth will be announced during the next few weeks. The plan, drawn up by the economic affairs committee of the President's Council, is expected to form the basis of new economic initiatives by the Government in the year ahead." The initial steps of the plan may be announced by President Botha at the Cape congress of the National party (NP) on 30 September, he says. A new report on urbanization strategy, Stuart adds, "will make more specific proposals to create jobs through 'informal sector' enterprises, draw blacks more fully into private enterprise, and create new working areas in the major metropolitan centres." Industrialist Dr F.P. Jacobsz, chairman of the economic affairs committee, said the report is nearing the draft stage and the committee hoped to present it to the President's Council in November "So the Government could act on it at the next session of Parliament."

In its editorial in the same edition, *THE CITIZEN* says: "The five by-elections which are to be held on October 30 will be the most significant indicator of the state of the nation politically. For they will show how the electorate in these constituencies feels about reform." There is little doubt, it says, that the *Herstigte Nasionale Party* (HNP), which "still believes in complete apartheid and reflects an extreme Afrikaner nationalism that should have no relevance in the days in which we live," will do well in Sasolburg in the Orange Free State with Conservative Party (CP) support. "Between the Progressive Federal Party left, and the CP-HNP Right, moderate Afrikaners and English-speakers may decide — and we hope they will — that the Government's reforms are significant and should be supported, and that a signal should be given to it to go ahead with more reforms at a quickened pace." We hope, the editorial adds, the NP will continue along the path of reform, in spite of any setbacks.

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 24 September reports that the Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO) has condemned the SADF raid into Angola last week, "describing it as 'undermining the integrity of independent black African states'." Dan Habeli, executive member of AZAPO, issued a "strongly worded statement" which said: "The Botha-Malan junta has through General Magnus Malan dashed all flimsy justification of the sponsors of the so-called constructive engagement, the fraudulent and nefarious Nkomati deal and the imperialist-supported South Africa's racist reform. The savage iron fist of the SADF against our people and aspirations has been exposed. South Africa is a tool for Western imperialism and her local representatives." The statement also said, "South Africa's despicable and malignant ploy to clinch deals with various reactionary forces in furtherance of the global interest of capitalism and

imperialism poses a threat to world peace, progress and prosperity. The Botha-Reagan alliance is perpetrating the devilish act of aggression, repression and deceit against the majority in Azania and elsewhere," the *SOWETAN* reports.

In its editorial of the same edition the *SOWETAN* criticizes the government's timing in publishing the recommendations of the Commission of Cooperation and Development on the consolidation of KwaZulu. The recent announcements on black citizenship were seen by many as the "first step away from apartheid," but "It now appears it is back to the drawing boards" with the proposals from the commission. "It means that black 'citizens' of KwaZulu are seen as different from the white 'citizens' of Natal. And this racial separation IS apartheid. If we were moving to a common citizenship, there would be no need to separate the races." The editorial asks, "Could it be that the Government does not intend implementing the proposals; that this is simply a report on the activities of an old committee that no longer has a place in our society? If this last is true, we will be happy, relieved."

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 24 September comments in an editorial that "the Slabbert-Buthelezi convention alliance is a brave attempt at what is desperately needed in this country: a moderate grouping that will provide the leadership that we so badly lack." "Much depends now on the enthusiasm of the steering committee and whatever covert support and direction Slabbert and Buthelezi can give it. For the alliance is barely afloat." Bishop Desmond Tutu was conspicuous by his absence at the alliance meeting, the editorial notes, although he did send a message. "A man of peace is not he who walks only part of the way," the newspaper says.

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 24 September reports that a recent survey conducted by Market Research Africa says "race relations are now seen to be the most important issue facing South Africa today, replacing inflation, which was the most important concern a year ago." The survey showed two of every five white urban adults now regard race relations as the main problem. "Concern was found to be the highest in Natal (49 percent) and the Cape (46 percent), and the lowest in the Transvaal (34 percent). The survey found English-speakers were more worried about race relations than Afrikaans-speakers, while the latter showed a greater concern about unemployment than their English counterparts."

In its editorial in the same edition, *THE STAR* notes that the editor and a reporter of the Eastern Province *HERALD* are to appear in court this week charged with contravening Section 27B of the Police Act, "which makes it an offence to publish any untrue statement about the police without reasonable grounds for believing it to be true." The outcome of the case could have serious implications for the press as a whole, *THE STAR* says. "The clause is fundamentally undesirable. When it was introduced, opposition spokesmen warned that it could prevent the Press maintaining proper scrutiny of police actions. In the event, Section 27B has often been used as a threat, but rarely implemented. The question is whether this is now to change." If it does, the editorial notes, the press "will be hobbled even more. And there can surely be no doubt that, in the explosive climate of the townships, suppression of contrary versions of police

action will inflame feelings even more."

In a second editorial *THE STAR* says South Africa's latest raid into Angola "couldn't have come at a worse time, diplomatically speaking." "If this was merely a pre-emptive strike against SWAPO, as advertised, the haul of casualties and captured arms was relatively puny: hardly worth the international flak," it says. The suspicion is that the raid was meant to take some of the heat off UNITA. Defense Minister Magnus Malan has now said military intervention in Angola cannot be ruled out. "We hope Gen Malan's threat was not a serious one," the newspaper says, because "a full South African invasion would be disastrous."

In a final comment *THE STAR* says the Commission for Cooperation and Development recommendations for the consolidation of KwaZulu are "out of date." "The Government is wise to back off from it. It would be wiser still not to give the commission's outdated recommendations an airing at all. Let the people of Natal sort out their own future — without shunting communities around an ethnic chequerboard," it concludes.

Dr Beyers Naude, secretary of the South African Council of Churches, told students at the University of Pretoria that "emotional and political support for the ANC was growing in the black community," *THE STAR* reports in the same edition. "Dr Naude told the students that those who sought negotiations with blacks without taking into account the important contribution the ANC had to make denied the hard, genuine reality," the article says. "He also warned that the Government's insistence on the rejection of violence as a precondition for negotiation excluded vital parts of the black community. 'In our negotiations, we have come to a point where the militant black youth no longer believe that a peaceful solution to the country's problems is possible,' he said."

The senior group economist of Standard Bank Investment Corporation, Nico Czipionka, criticized recent monetary and fiscal policies and told a meeting of Durban businessmen "the fortunes of the economy now depended on constitutional and political factors," *THE STAR* reports in its business section. Czipionka suggested a number of actions which could improve the country's position. He said the government must realize that monetary and fiscal policies are insufficient, and it "needed to get control over the dynamics in society — and to communicate that it had control. A new economic policy had to be spent out [as published] credibly." He also advised an "imaginative" privatization policy, a smaller public service, and "real tax reform." Czipionka particularly criticized the allocation of new sums for new business creation to the Small Business Development Corporation, saying "it surely would have been better to have removed the massive restrictions on entrepreneurship. This would have achieved as much without creaming half the allocation off to bureaucracy." He also predicted the 10 percent import surcharge would have an inflationary effect.

Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans on 23 September reports that the leader of the Conservative Party, Dr Andries Treurnicht, walked out of the Dutch Reformed Church in Lynnwood, Pretoria, after a report to the congregation by a church official on a recent inter-church conference. The paper

says the official reported that the conference had decided that Christians should offer each other the hand of friendship and try to solve the country's problems. The conference had included delegations from various black churches. When asked later by *DIE TRANSVALER* about the incident, Dr Treurnicht had confirmed that he walked out because he disagreed with "certain standpoints" in the report on the conference.

In an editorial titled "The Quicker the Better," the same issue of the paper says: "If anything could be added by thoughtful South Africans to the pure policy choice announced by Minister F.W. de Klerk on Thursday night on behalf of the National Party, it would probably be: the quicker the better." Referring to the minister's statement that the party had decided to negotiate and build, to think creatively and liberate, the paper says that the party has made the choice for peace and the rejection of conflict. It adds that from all sides influences are causing blacks to see a distorted image of whites' intentions, and the government's bona fides are being put into doubt. "It is not only the task of the whites to correct this distorted image. Every individual must lend a hand, but above all it is the black community itself which has to free itself from the grip of elements fanning unrest and destruction from the darkness." The task ahead for this nation is going to cost millions, the paper adds, but if the effort succeeds, most South Africans, black and white, will be able to share the infectious optimism of Minister de Klerk.

Final Plans Announced for Transvaal Homelands
MB250542 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0005 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] Pretoria, Sep 25, SAPA — The government has announced its final plans for the consolidation of three homelands in the Transvaal, and said that an extra 256,000 hectares of land would be included in the territories eventual borders and other land taken away.

Mr Chris Heunis, minister of constitutional development and planning, said in a statement from Pretoria today that the consolidation plans for Lebowa, Gazankulu and Kwanabele were being prepared for final approval by parliament.

Kangwane, the fourth non-independent homeland in the Transvaal, was not included in the consolidation announcement.

Although the statement said certain areas were earmarked for resettlement, it did not mention the number of people to be relocated. A spokesman for the department said that because of the new plans, some 125,000 people would no longer be resettled.

According to Mr Heunis, a total of 105,000 hectares have been added to Kwanabele, almost doubling the size of the homeland, which lies about 100 km northeast of Pretoria. The Rust de Winter area, excluding the dam, make up part of the land to be added.

The plans transfer to Lebowa a total of 134,308 hectares, including the famous Zebediela estates.

The government stipulated, however, that the transfer of the Orangelands would be subject to an "acceptable agreement" between the homeland and South Africa on the maintenance of assets and management of the estate.

Gazankulu, whose two main sections lie along the Kruger National Park, acquired an extra 1672 hectares according to the statement.

Mr Heunis said 112,219 hectares of land, which had been homeland territory or earmarked for the three territories, had been either excised or deproclaimed. He did not give a figure for the net amount of land which is to be transferred.

According to the announcement, Lebowa is to consist of two large sections, forming a corridor around Pietersburg and Potoitersburg, and some nine smaller pieces, including Bekgopas township and Silwanetsi township, which adjoins part of Gazankulu.

The towns of Sybrandskraal and Verena are to be included in Kwandebele, the announcement noted, while it had been decided not to add to the homeland the Nebo farms, east of Groblersdal.

The plans clarified the border between a piece of Lebowa and the southern part of Gazankulu, which lies east of Pilgrims Rest.

Mr Heunis said the erection of border fences along the territories new boundaries could now be started.

AFRA Says 242,000 To Be Moved by KwaZulu Plan
MB240749 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0744 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Excerpt] Pietermaritzburg, Sept 24, SAPA — The number of people who will be removed if the current consolidation plans for KwaZulu are implemented is closer to 242,000 rather than the 42,000 mentioned by the Commission for Cooperation and Development, the Association for Rural Advancement (AFRA) said today.

AFRA said in a statement this was because the position of people living in the many "black spots" in Natal had been disguised.

"Only eight out of the total of 189 so called black spots have been exempted in the proposals, these being the Driefontein complex of farms near Ladysmith."

AFRA said on August 24, representatives of 25 Natal communities had drawn up a resolution refusing to move.

A copy of this resolution was sent to the minister of development aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, and also to Mr Chris Heunis, minister of constitutional and development planning.

Reserve four, near Richards Bay, was one of these communities due to be removed according to the current plan.

"The people of reserve four, which is next to Richards Bay, having lived in the area for over nine consecutive generations and

having been threatened with removal since 1978, have persistently refused to move, so have the people in Mafikeng Kop in the Klip River District.

Umtata Reports ANC Gesture to 'Attract Whites'
MB250848 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0700 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] The ANC has launched a new initiative to attract white South Africans. This comes after a recent meeting between prominent South African businessmen and leaders of the banned organization in Zambia.

The BUSINESS DAY newspaper reports that it has received a letter from the ANC headlined as a message to white South Africans. The letter apparently states that the decline in living standards in South Africa are not because of the world recession or the gold price, but because of apartheid. The newspaper says the letter is conciliatory and moderate in tone and gives figures from this year's budget to back its claims that South Africa cannot afford apartheid.

Soweto Group Rejects Alliance Invitation
MB241135 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1027 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Text] Johannesburg Sep 24 SAPA — The Soweto Civic Association (SCA) said today there could be no national convention while "authentic" leaders were jailed, organisations banned and the townships occupied by the police and Army.

Reacting in a statement today to an invitation to join the meeting launching the Convention Alliance last weekend, the SCA said:

"This move by the PFP (Progressive Federal Party) seeks to grab the opportunity of misrepresenting the general masses, especially now after the great clamp down on the United Democratic Front (UDF) and its leadership, thus isolating the UDF and other progressive organisations within South Africa.

It said the SCA interpreted "these manoeuvres as opportunistic strategies aimed at the isolation of certain organisations and political positions in and outside South Africa."

"We are aware that the liberal strategy of the PFP is also to wrench away from us some of our credible leadership," the statement said.

"We are also aware that they intend to bunch them (the leadership) together with the already discredited quislings and political pipsqueaks... into the leadership of this so-called National Convention Alliance."

The statement said the reason why the SCA could not accept the invitation because, as an organisation, it was "an integral part of the harassed, detained, sjamboked oppressed and exploited

masses of this country."

"The SCA shall not abandon these people and sacrifice them for the short term glimmers of political strategies to seek to obfuscate our liberation goals."

ZIMBABWE

Prime Minister Says RSA Arming ZAPU Members
MB220658 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 22 Sep 85

[Text] A Bindura-Shamba constituency held celebrations to mark the ZAPU-PF landslide victory in the last general election in Shamba yesterday. The celebrations were attended by thousands of people including the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, and his wife, Comrade Sally Mugabe; the president of the Senate, Comrade Nolan Makombe; as well as government and party officials.

Comrade Mugabe thanked the people for voting for the ruling party. He also commended the good working relations between the government and commercial farmers in the Bindura-Shamba constituency. However, he reiterated government's disappointment at the fact that most whites chose to vote for the reactionary Ian Smith. Comrade Mugabe also said the government is looking into possibilities of establishing payout points at all grain collection depots throughout the country. The prime minister said this will help speed up the payment of farmers, most of whom have to wait for some time before they can get their checks. He said the government is aware of the transport problems most communal farmers are facing, and measures are being taken to solve the problems.

On the political situation in the country, Comrade Mugabe said every Zimbabwean should remain vigilant, as South Africa is still arming super-ZAPU elements and also supporting bandits in Mozambique and Angola.